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Arab news

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TODAY IN Arab news

Saudi Food '83
Twelve Swedish companies are participating in the Saudi Food '83 Exhibition scheduled to be inaugurated at the Al-Dhifa Exhibition Center in Riyadh on Sunday. About 400 exhibitors from 24 countries are taking part in the show. — Page 2

Centenarian fit to work
A 101-year-old man who has undergone heart surgery says he is fit to do hard labor. — Page 6

U.S. warns Japan
America's special Trade Representative William Brock warns Japan that unless it shoulders some of the burdens of free trade, it will have difficulty operating in the U.S. market. — Page 11

Italy rallies
World Cup holders Italy rallied to hold lowly Cyprus in their European Championship Group Five contest. The draw put the Italians out of the running for a berth in the finals to be played in France. — Page 13

Cyprus poll today
Cyprus is to go to the polls today and President Kyprianou is favored to win with Communist support. — Page 16

Esmat, kin jailed in graft case

CAIRO, Feb. 12 (AP) — The Ethics Court Saturday ordered one-year imprisonment for the half brother of the late President Anwar Sadat and three of his sons and sequestered their property indefinitely following a three-month corruption trial.

"Authority has trespassed on justice," Esmat Sadat shouted from the dock as women members of his family burst into tears and male relatives screamed hysterically after Court President Ahmad Rifat Khafagy read out the ruling.

But there was applause by some of an estimated 300 spectators jamming the courtroom.

The court upheld the findings of socialist Prosecutor General Abdul-Kader Ahmad Ali that Esmat, 59, and his immediate family members had built up a vast fortune "by illegitimate means" and had "committed acts harmful to the economic interests of the country."

Ali's 24-count indictment, issued Dec. 15, cited influence peddling, black marketeering, bribery and other offenses.



ESMAT IN ESMAT TRIAL: Esmat Sadat (left), half brother of the late President Anwar Sadat, reaches out to console his son Hosni (right), who shouts at the court after the panel ordered his father and three brothers jailed for a year on corruption charges. Members of the Esmat Sadat family also seek to restrain him during Saturday's session.

The court decided that Esmat and his sons Galal, 37, Talat, 29, and Muhammad Anwar, 27, be detained for one year subject to renewal for similar periods up to five years. For Esmat, Galal and Talat, the jail term took effect from last Oct. 28 when prosecutor Ali ordered them detained. For son Muhammad Anwar, imprisonment began Saturday.

But the court set no time-limit on property sequestration which covered the assets of Esmat and his three detained sons, his wife and three other sons, one daughter and two

Battle lines drawn over Sharon's future

TEL AVIV, Feb. 12 (AP) — Despite last week's cabinet decision to oust Ariel Sharon from the Defense Ministry, a tougher battle was shaping up Saturday over whether Sharon should remain in the government holding another cabinet post.

Sharon told reporters after a speech in Tel Aviv Friday that "there was a reshuffle of portfolios, and that's the end of the problem." Another cabinet minister, Energy Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, told Israel radio Saturday that Sharon was willing to serve in any cabinet position.

But Prime Minister Menachem Begin's spokesman Uri Porat told the Associated Press that a decision on Sharon's political future had not yet been taken. He said a decision would "probably" be reached during the cabinet's scheduled session on Sunday.

Opposition Labor Party leader Shimon Peres said on Israel TV Friday that any decision to keep Sharon in the cabinet would flout the recommendations of the Kahan report on the massacre in the Beirut refugee camps.

Peres indicated that he would give the government until Sunday to make up its mind before considering whether to join the centrist Shinui (change) Party in a motion of no-confidence which Shinui plans to raise in parliament early this week.

At least three liberals in the governing Likud coalition have said publicly that Sharon must leave the cabinet. If they and two others voted against the government, Begin would lose the no-confidence vote and be forced to call new elections. The Likud has 64 seats in the 120-member Knesset (parliament).

But Begin has said he favors elections, believing he would win a larger mandate, while Labor officials have said privately that Begin probably would be the victor. Peres himself has not called for a new election.

Senior government officials said last week

Bush, Shultz fulfilled trips' aims -- Reagan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan has said the journeys of Vice President George Bush and Secretary of State Shultz have "reinforced American policy and have set the stage for added progress in the future in two areas of the world enormously important to our country and to our people."

In a written statement issued after he met with both men, Reagan said he was "deeply encouraged" by Bush's report, adding that the vice president's trip "illustrated that NATO — in contrast to the Warsaw Pact — is a voluntary alliance of free people based on consultation and consensus."

Another scandal rocks Vatican Bank

VATICAN CITY, Feb. 12 (AP) — The Vatican Bank has been touched by a third major financial scandal in a year, just as the Vatican was settling a dispute with Italy over the collapse of the country's largest private bank.

The latest scandal involves a massive scheme by businessmen and tax officials to bilk Italy out of billions of dollars of taxes on petroleum products during the 1970s.

Two priests were arrested this week and three others — including the No. 2 man at the Vatican Bank — were officially notified that they are being investigated in connection with the scam. And Cardinal Ugo Poletti, Pope John Paul II's vicar of Rome, denied this week that he will resign for aiding a key tax official convicted in the scandal.

The two — Monsignor Simeone Duca and

U.K.'s mass murderer remanded

LONDON, Feb. 12 (Agencies) — A 37-year-old British civil servant who told police he had strangled and butchered 16 young drifters was remanded in jail Saturday on a single murder charge.

While police probed the garden of a house where he had once lived for human remains, Dennis Nilsen, thin, bespectacled and untidily dressed, made his first court appearance in connection with the case.

He showed no emotion as he told the court in North London he understood the charge that, on or about Feb. 1, he wilfully murdered Stephen Sinclair, 20, the only one of his victims so far identified.

Nilsen was asked if he understood the charge against him. "Yes," he replied. It was his only comment at the one-minute hearing, during which he was handcuffed to a detective. He was not asked to enter a plea.

In nearby Cricklewood, Detective Superintendent Norman Briers said officers

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12 Swedish companies taking part in food show

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Feb. 12 — A total of 12 Swedish companies are participating in the Saudi Food '83 Exhibition scheduled to be inaugurated at the Al-Dhiyafa Exhibition Center in Riyadh on Sunday. About 400 exhibitors from 24 countries are taking part in the show which is, according to the project manager of the exhibition, Stephen Luff, the biggest food industry trade show in the Middle East.

The show will be inaugurated by the Deputy Minister of Supply Tawfik Ibrahim. The Swedish companies will display a wide range of quality Swedish foodstuffs at the exhibition which will continue through Feb. 17. The Swedish participation is arranged through the Swedish Trade Council and the special secretariat for the Promotion of Swedish Food Abroad.

The 12 Swedish companies participating are: Flodin Trading International AB, Karlshamn Oljefabriker, AB Nordbake, Nordia Trading AB, Indra AB, Lars Jonsson Charkuterifabrik AB, Termofrost Sweden AB, Beverages and Foodstuff Ltd., Svenska Mejeriernas Riksförbund, Arla Mjölkcentralen, Nya Banco Bryggerier AB and Svekskt Mjölksocker AB.

Among the wide selection of food to be exhibited by the companies are meat products, vegetable oils, cakes, pastries, fruit juices, soft drinks, and beverages, milk products, mineral water, cheese and cheese products, margarine, butter, fish products, jam and marmalade.

It is to be recalled that Swedish companies play an important role in the Kingdom's farming sector and provide high quality equipment and know-how.

Kingdom's oil policy 'undecided'

RIYADH, Feb. 12 (AP) — The government said Friday night it had not "reached any decision until now on reducing prices or increasing production" of its crude oil.

The statement was issued in connection with an interview given Thursday by Minister of Petroleum and Minerals Ahmed Zaki Yamani to the weekly magazine *Iqra*, which requires clarification.

"The Kingdom is fully keen on the interests of OPEC's members — being a member of OPEC itself — and is especially keen on the Kingdom's own interests," added the brief statement.

Saudi scientist discovers 3 modern equations

RIYADH, Feb. 12 (SPA) — A Saudi Arabian scientist, Dr. Abdul Aziz Muhammad Al-Mujahed, professor at King Saud University, has discovered three modern experimental equations to be used for the measurement of sun's rays on earth.

Dr. Mujahed told the weekly edition of *Al-Riyadh* newspaper that the three equations concerning the atmospheric and other natural conditions of this city of Riyadh will be the basis for any projects to be established for the use of solar energy for various purposes. The first equation will serve to measure the intensity of sun's rays falling on a horizontal surface. It shows the average quantity, but

does not give the overall figure. The second equation measures the intensity of the sun rays on a vertical surface. The third equation is for measuring the intensity of scattered sun rays hitting the earth.

Dr. Mujahed will submit the research which took him a year to complete to an international solar energy congress in Australia next August.

Meanwhile, a site has been located at Bani Malek locality, at the instructions of the Ministry of Post, Telegraph and Telephone, for the construction of satellite station in the area, *Okaz* reported. A special committee chose the site where the construction will take place soon.

total of 1,800 M3/D of potable water from brackish sources in the area. These plants will provide water and waste treatment facilities to the hospital and the extended residential quarters on site.

The four sewage treatment plants for the hospitals in Al-Ula, Al-Qunfudha, Rabeh and Uduim in the Western Province comprise inlet works with comminutor and bypass bar screen and sewage lift station, feeding to two Metito 60/30 packaged extended aeration plants. The treated effluent is polished by sand filtration and is hypo-chlorinated to remove bacteria. The treated effluent is to be used for site irrigation.

The three sewage treatment plants for the hospitals in Sarat Abidah, Al Majardah and Tathlith in the remote South Western Province comprise treatment by Metito's packaged aeration systems, sand filtration and hypo-chlorination. The effluent is to be used for site irrigation.

The Sharourah Hospital in the Western Province is to be provided with the vital water and waste treatment facilities by Metito. These include sewage treatment, potable water treatment and swimming pool water treatment.

All the above projects are for green field sites as part of the first phase of the Saudi Ministry of Health Hospital Expansion Program. These plants provide essential services to the isolated community hospitals. Marshall said.

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650 projects financed since inception in 1974 Saudi fund spends SR508 billion

RIYADH, Feb. 12 (SPA) — The Saudi Fund for Industrial Development financed 650 projects against appropriations totaling SR801 billion of which SR508 billion have been spent from its inception in 1974 to the end of 1981.

Allocations for 1980/81 totaled SR103 billion for 73 projects, according to the fund's annual report. The projects financed by the fund include construction material factories. It gave loans in 1980/81 for ten such projects that produce red bricks, pipes, ceramic tiles and other material. It also earmarked SR268 million for consumer goods projects during the same financial year.

Loans allocated for that sector amounted to SR1,457 million, representing 18 percent of the total commitments of the fund for industrial projects. As a result of that financing, 28 new factories have been streamlined in 1980/81, which is the fastest growth ratio among all other major sectors. Fund officials estimate that activity pertaining to the production of consumer goods will steady at the same level for the years to come.

Total loans for the engineering sector in 1980/81 came up to SR221 million, to bring the overall earmarked financial commitments for that sector to SR10,411 million, or 17.5 percent of the grand total of the fund's loans. That rate remained stable throughout the past four years.

In 1980/81, 17 new factories went into operation to produce isothermal metal sheets, wire nets, steel pipes, metal plates, car radiators and desert air-conditioners. Investors proved very eager in that sector, as a result of which the fund expected the loan

activity to continue at the same level during the years to come.

Still in 1980/82, the fund granted two loans for two factories for iron installations. It also extended a loan for the construction of a metal housing structure plant, which brought to 23 the fund's total investments in that field.

The fund also financed chemical and plastic products projects. Loans were extended to finance 101 companies for the manufacturing of plastic and chemical substances. The amount involved was SR904 million for fiscal year 1980/81. Local investors were also found to be very enthusiastic for that sector.

which proved to be the fastest growing in terms of industrial licenses.

Before the end 1980/81, the fund examined the investment perspectives in many a project relating to soil fixing substances, certain ingredients used in the production of ethylene and other chemical substances entering in the composition of paint, fire extinguishers and cooling. The fund now has a tendency to finance more ambitious chemical projects, which makes it necessary to undertake a deeper assessment and more comprehensive appraisal of both the fund and the investors.

Metito gets water sewage treatment contracts for many hospital projects

By a Staff Writer

RIYADH, Feb. 12 — The Metito (Saudi Arabia) Ltd., which is currently celebrating 25 years of service to the water industry in the Middle East, has recently been awarded a number of water and sewage treatment contracts for several hospital projects, according to Thomas Marshall, communications consultant of the company.

Marshall said that the projects, which required Metito's special expertise in this field, involve design, fabrication, installation and commissioning of plant plus service back-up and training which is conducted via four regional offices.

The overriding criteria for Metito's success in the hospital field, he said, is its capacity of providing a total facility and back-up service with over 150 professional engineers based permanently in Saudi Arabia.

The Al Hada Hospital project in Taif involves provision of a 1,800 M3/D package type sewage plant comprising a 1,350 M3/D reverse osmosis plant, designed to tie in with the existing facilities on site and provide a

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مركز المأكولات

Slowdown seen in Saudi banks' growth rate

JEDDAH, Feb. 12 — There are signs that the rate of growth of the Kingdom's banks is slowing down, according to the latest issue of *Saudi Business*.

The economic weekly, quoting the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA) Statistical Bulletin prepared last summer, said the consolidated balance sheets of the Kingdom's nine commercial banks rose at an annual rate of 14 percent during the first six months of 1982, compared with a 23 percent increase recorded between the end of 1980 and December 1981.

The expansion of lending shows an even more dramatic decline, from a 37.7 percent growth rate in 1980-81 over the previous year to 15 percent in 1981/82. Bankers and officials say that while growth is still the order of the day, a relative slowdown can be detected due to a convergence of many factors in the Saudi and international economies.

From 1979 to 1982, the Saudi Arabian government spending increased by an average of 20 percent a year. This year, the SR313 billion budget is only 5 percent over that of the previous year. Since the government spending accounts for well over 90 percent of the Kingdom's economy, almost every sector's ability to spend is affected.

There is a slowdown in commerce, with some companies reportedly unable to sell their warehouse stocks because of market saturation for many types of goods. Contractors have been hit by last year's cut in the amount of advance payments for government contracts from 20 percent to 10 percent — this too has resulted in slower cash flows. Profit margins of companies in the Kingdom have been pinched, which in turn affects the banks.

The deregulation of rents last year — leading in some cases to 10-fold increases, as in the Souk area of downtown Jeddah — is also making life harder for traders and their bankers.

As a result of fierce inter-bank competition within the Kingdom and the invasion of the "briefcase bankers Bahrain" — whose offshore banks are not subject to SAMA's restrictions — the bank's lending margins are down. Saudi banks adhere closely to the Bahrain Inter-Bank Offshore Rate (BIBOR), which is fixed daily. Last year, Saudi banks were able to charge an average of 33 percent above BIBOR and make a healthy profit. This year, margins are down to 1 or 1½ percent.

Saudi Arabian banks are prevented from

leading more than 25 percent of their capital base to a single borrower. This leads to clients using the Bahrain banks, which have no such restrictions.

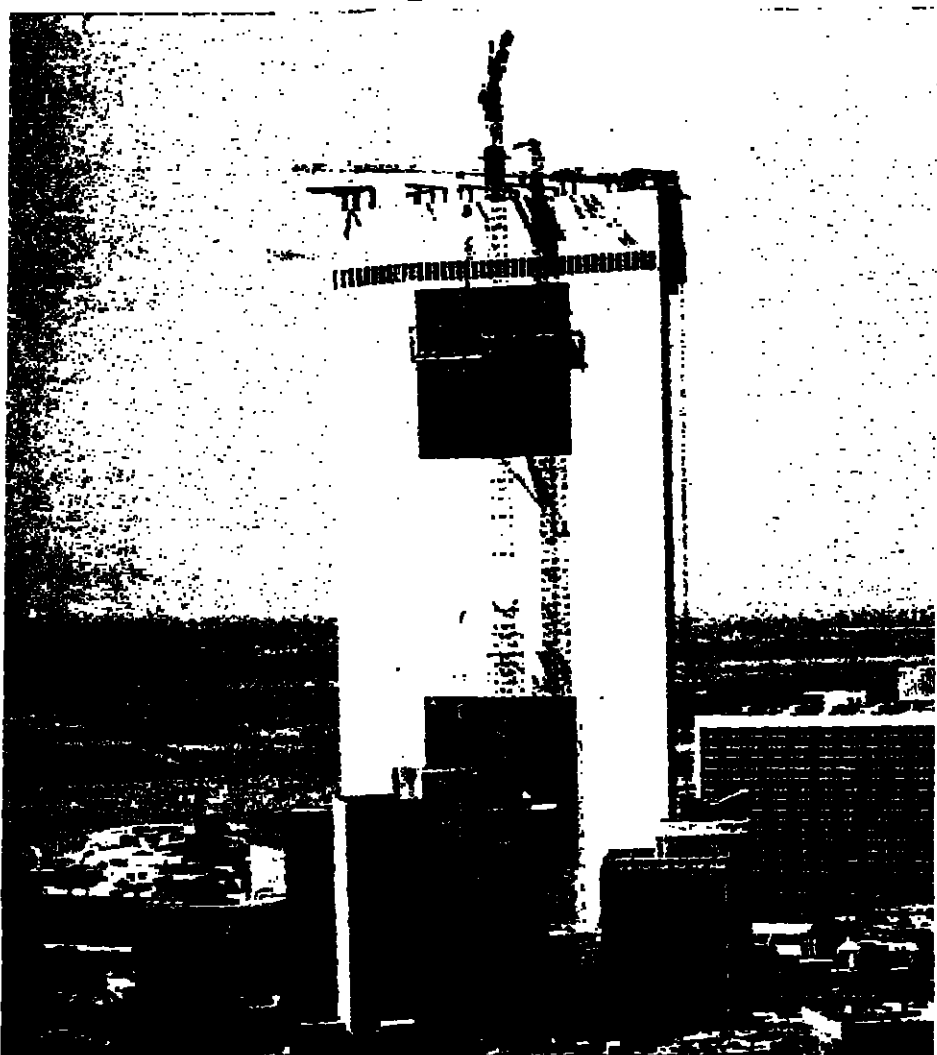
One way Saudi banks can get around this is to issue syndicated loans, whereby several banks contribute to the loan. But the tremendous growth in syndicated loans has recently been restricted by a SAMA circular requiring banks to obtain SAMA permission before entering into foreign loans (either riyal or foreign currency) or joining forces with foreign banks on in-Kingdom loans. This will affect the recent partnerships which have grown up between the Bahrain offshore banks and those in Saudi Arabia. The motives behind SAMA's move are to prevent unsound alliances with foreign banks which may be overextended in the dangerous South American loan market, and to block any move toward internationalizing the riyal.

Although there are no exchange control restrictions in the Kingdom, SAMA would be happy if all riyals stayed within Saudi Arabia. However, there is a flourishing offshore riyal market which both lends to Saudi businesses and provides a stable currency for foreigners frightened by fluctuations.

Banks are also restricted by SAMA in the amount of loans they can issue. As in other countries, a fixed ratio of loans to capital base is enforced. The banks wish to increase their capital base so that they can lend more, but they require SAMA permission to take the obvious route of issuing more shares. SAMA prefers banks to generate their own capital by ploughing back profits into reserves.

SAMA also fixes a loan-to-deposits ratio of 65-35 percent. But banks are in fact now unable to bring loans to the 65 percent level. Running at 61 percent in the third quarter of 1982, the ratio reportedly slumped to 54 percent in the fourth quarter. One factor in this could be last year's decision by the Ministry of Justice preventing banks using mortgages on borrowers' property as security, because it is inconsistent with Islamic law.

Even in 1981, the growth rate of loans had begun to fall. Al Jazira, for example, dropped from a 25 percent loan growth in 1980 to 16 percent in 1981. Arab National reached 8 percent growth and Saudi Cairo 7.3 percent in 1981. The National Commercial Bank's (NCB) 1982 figures show an increase in deposits over 1981 from SR32.7



NEW BANK HEADQUARTERS: The new multistoried National Commercial Bank headquarters which is now a striking landmark in downtown Jeddah.

billion to SR45 billion, but loans to the private sector rose only slightly, from SR14.9 billion to SR17.9 billion.

Up to last year, the majority of banks' deposits were on-demand loans, which accrued little or no interest. These cheap deposits have now been replaced by interest-bearing time deposits. A few years ago, demand deposits accounted for 90 percent of deposits; the figure is now more like 50 percent.

Lower lending margins and more interest-bearing deposits are affecting pro-

fitability at a time when the Kingdom's seven partly foreign-owned banks are having to face heavy corporate taxes after the expiry of a five-year tax holiday declared at their formation. Al Jazira was the first bank to be Saudized in 1976. As a result, it was first to be eligible to pay the 45 percent corporate tax on its foreign holdings in 1981. This year, the foreign partners of three more banks will be paying the tax — Al Saudi Al Fransi, Saudi Investment Banking Corp., and Al Bank Al Saudi Al Hollandi.

Saudi American Bank opens branch at Khamis Mushayt

RIYADH, Feb. 12 — The seventeenth branch of Saudi American Bank was inaugurated in Khamis Mushayt Saturday at a ceremony in honor of Abdul Aziz Ibn Said ibn Mushayt, the governor of Khamis Mushayt.

The opening of the Khamis Mushayt branch follows the recently opened Abha branch as the second office to represent Saudi American bank's interests in the Asir region. It will serve personal customers and businessmen who live and work in the vicinity.

Branch Manager Ali Omar Johaidalah, said that Saudi American's automated banking facilities are at the disposal of all customers.

"For example, a customer with an account at the Khamis Mushayt branch is also able, if he wishes, to cash a check or

make a deposit at the bank's branch in Abha without any delay," Johaidalah explained. Similarly, when visiting Jeddah he can use any of the four branches there to perform immediate banking transactions.

Johaidalah believes that Saudi American Bank's reputation in the market for high quality service will be enhanced by the opening of the new branch.

"We try to provide a rapid, friendly and competent service to all our customers," he said, "and our professional staff are there to assist with any financial requirements the individual may have."

Attending the inauguration ceremonies in Khamis Mushayt were a number of local dignitaries and customers as well as the bank's managing director Robert D. Botjer, and other senior bank representatives.

Fewer entry visas issued in 1982

RIYADH, Feb. 12 — The Interior Ministry issued 772,088 visas in 1982, i.e. 77,255 or nine percent less than in 1981, *Al-Riyadh* reported Saturday. In 1980, it granted 643,230 visas, and in 1981, 849,343, according to Dr. Abdul Jalil Al-Saifi, who is in charge of visas.

Dr. Saifi said, that recruitment of foreign manpower was still excessive and beyond

the country's capacity. The figures do not comprise employers like the education ministry that recruits through its bureaus abroad.

The official also said that requests for relatives to stay with expatriates and for drivers were on the rise, but there was a marked decline in demand for household servants.

Arab home consumer event slated

JEDDAH, Feb. 12 — An Arab home furnishing and consumer goods show, organized by Arabian Exhibition Management, will be held in Bahrain from Nov. 13 through 17, according to its project manager, Will Martin.

Martin said that the organizers will place greater emphasis on furniture and interior decoration and the show will be divided into two separate sections for trade visitors and the general public.

This important consumer event in the Gulf has attracted the support and sponsorship of the minister of commerce and agriculture of Bahrain who has given the exhibition his full blessings, Martin said.

The minister, in his official letter of sponsorship is quoted as having said: "It's my pleasure to act as sponsor for the show which can only serve to stimulate and expand the excellent choice of household goods available throughout the region."

Prayer Times

	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Sunday						
Fajr (Dawn)	5:28	5:32	5:04	4:53	5:17	5:49
Dhuhr (Noon)	12:35	12:36	12:07	11:54	12:18	12:48
Asr (Afternoon)	3:52	3:50	3:21	3:07	3:31	3:59
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:18	6:16	5:47	5:32	5:56	6:23
Isha (Night)	7:48	7:46	7:17	7:02	7:26	7:53

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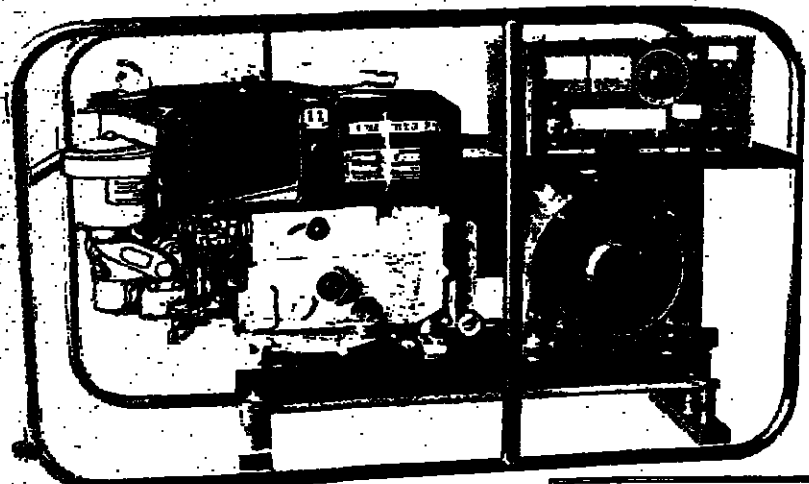
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Security Council debates settlements

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 12 (AP) — Syria called Friday for a general boycott of Israel to punish it for annexing occupied Arab territories.

Syria's representative introduced the proposal by charging that Israel had adopted a policy of "leaping annexation" to follow a policy of "creeping annexation."

Syrian ambassador Dia-Allah Fattal switched momentarily from Arabic to make that remark in English as he reopened a debate the council began Nov. 12 on the situation in the occupied territories.

Zehdi's call

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 12 (Agencies) — Zehdi Terzi, the PLO's U.N. observer, addressing a meeting of the Security Council said "Israel must be forced to withdraw from all the territories it has occupied since 1967. Israel must abide by, and carry out, all the decisions of the Security Council. And if Israel does not do that, then the council has the remedy that such criminals have no room in this organization."

Zehdi said that when it came to Israel, "we have lost all confidence after Sabra and Shatila."

He said that "after the slaughter... Israel arrogantly dismissed" U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan.

ation in the occupied territories.

The council met by request of Jordanian delegate Saad Bataineh, chairman of the 22-member U.N. Arab group. On Wednesday, he wrote the council president, Soviet Ambassador Oleg Troyanovsky, to ask that the council "resume consideration of Israel's

persistence in its policies of establishing settlements in occupied Arab and Palestinian territories."

"If the Security Council is to regain its prestige," Fattal said, "... it must impose mandatory sanctions against Israel in accordance with chapter 7 of the charter and expel Israel from the organization."

The U.N. Charter provides in chapter 7 that the Security Council may impose sanctions on any country found to be threatening or breaching international peace. It provides in another part of the charter that any country that has persistently violated charter principles may be expelled from the United Nations by the General Assembly on the council's recommendation.

Egypt's new U.N. ambassador, Ahmad Khalil, in his maiden speech to the council, said: "The key to peace in the Middle East is the acceptance by all parties of the right of other parties to exist."

Indian Ambassador Natarajan Krishnan said Israel's recent actions were part of a grand design to alter the demographic structure of the occupied territories.

Yugoslav Ambassador Ignac Golob called for Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied territories. He said no Middle East solution could be considered just and comprehensive "without the participation on an equal footing of the PLO and without the recognition of the right of all states in the region."

Ambassador Muhammad Abdul Aziz Salam of North Yemen accused Israel of expropriating homes and property daily from people of the West Bank and Gaza; closing their schools, and torturing political prisoners.

The debate was finally adjourned to Monday afternoon.

Rajavi sees uprising by Iranians

AUVERS-SUR-OISE, France, Feb. 12 (AP) — Exiled Iranian leader Massoud Rajavi said there will be "a massive popular uprising" when ailing Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini dies.

Rajavi, in an interview with several reporters, said Friday Khomeini is very ill, according to unconfirmed reports he has received.

"From different sources, I understand he has difficulties with his heart, has diabetes and kidney problems," said the 35-year-old leader of the Mujahadeen Khalq.

"If he dies, it means the circle of terror is broken, and people will come out of their houses to overthrow the regime," Rajavi said. "The death of Khomeini is somewhat equal to the breaking of the circle. Khomeini is the cover on top of the pot."

Rajavi called reporters to his tightly guarded compound north of Paris to complain about recent Western news reports indicating the Khomeini regime was relatively stable.

Israel set to attack Syria, Moscow warns

DOHA, Feb. 12 (AP) — Radio Moscow warned Friday night that Israel was preparing at any moment to attack Syria in the direction of the capital, Damascus.

The Qatar News Agency quoted a Moscow radio broadcast, monitored here, as saying the Israelis were "transporting troops, tanks and ammunition to Al-Bekaa Valley (in Lebanon), opposite the Syrian Arab peacekeeping force, and were intensifying their provocations against the Syrians."

As death threats to Palestinians continue

U.N. reports finding of 15 bodies near Sidon

VIENNA, Feb. 12 (AP) — Fifteen bodies have been found near a Palestinian refugee camp near Sidon, South Lebanon, amid a campaign of death threats against Palestinians in the area, a spokesman for the United Nations Relief Works Agency said Saturday.

One of the latest bodies found was that of a 17-year-old Palestinian boy which had been badly mutilated, said Terry Davidson of UNRWA, which is headquartered here and runs relief and education programs for the Palestinians.

The bodies were found the El-Hilweh camp over a period of two weeks. The last three, including that of the boy, were taken to a local hospital Thursday, said Davidson. Two of the last three corpses were identified as Palestinian, but the identity of all of them had not been established, he said.

On Feb. 10, notices were found at mosques

in the area calling on each Lebanese to kill a Palestinian, according to information received here by UNRWA. The notices were signed by a group calling itself "Guardians of the Cedars," he said — an apparent indication they were spread by anti-Palestinian activists.

But Davidson said his agency was not sure who was behind the notes or the killings.

About 15,000 refugees live in El-Hilweh, and the agency is distributing food and other emergency supplies to some 50,000 in the Sidon area, said Ron Wilkinson, another UNRWA spokesman. Some Palestinians, fearing the threats, have moved into the camp from their homes nearby, or left the area, he said.

In one incident last week, in the small Phalangist village of Addousieh, Christian militiamen "definitely a part of the Phalangist forces" told 10 families to leave their homes within

24 hours, said Wilkinson. He said Israeli units were stationed in the neighborhood and had been patrolling the area following their invasion last summer. "But it is not as tight as it has been," he said of the security situation. UNRWA has been asking to Israel to beef up their patrols, he said.

All the bodies were found outside the camp, in alleys, on roads or in open areas, and all had apparently been taken from their homes, said Wilkinson. While all identities had not been determined, "the ones who were not Palestinian apparently had connections to the Palestinians," he said.

At least one of the bodies was that of a Syrian national, he said.

Some residents of El-Hilweh live in tents, and the agency has given material to some to build their own places in the camp, said Wilkinson. The camp was hit during the Israeli bombardment and one school was destroyed.

Global probe into massacre urged

MANAMA, Feb. 12 (Agencies) — Arab media in the Gulf region said Friday the removal of Israel's defense minister should be followed by an international inquisition into last year's massacre of Palestinian refugees in Beirut.

Bahrain's daily newspaper *Akhbar Al-Khaleef* editorialized that statements issued in the United States "to the effect Sharon was working outside the authorization of the Menahem Begin government ... shows Washington's collusion in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and even in the massacre itself."

"Even Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky, known for his hostility to the Begin government, has stated that Israel was a real democracy," said the weekly United Arab Emirates newspaper *Al-Itihad*.

"It is our responsibility as Arabs to correct this falsification, through an international

tribunal which alone can prove the massacre was not Sharon's but Israel's crime, as Zionist writer Jacob Timmerman has said," it added.

The U.S. government Friday expressed doubt that Sharon's resignation would have any favorable effect on the slow-moving negotiations between Lebanon and Israel.

Questioned after a meeting with President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State George Shultz said in Washington that in the first place, it remained to be seen what Sharon's position was going to be. He added that for the moment, there was "no indication" of any progress in negotiating the departure of Israeli forces from Lebanon.

In Cairo, a senior Egyptian diplomat Friday urged Arabs not to "waste the chance" provided by Sharon's resignation because his "disappearance could bring the situation in the Middle East to some logic and reality."

BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israel and the United States eventually will agree on a plan to share intelligence information gathered by the Israeli spy agency, Israel's ambassador to the United States said here.

MANAMA (AP) — French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson arrived in Baghdad Saturday for a two-day visit during which he plans to discuss bilateral ties, and Arab affairs.

ALGIERS (AP) — Palestinian national leaders strengthened their unity despite their "disagreements" over the "burning issues" of the day, Thursday night and Friday morning, a spokesman said.

HARARE (AP) — Zimbabwe and Iran have decided to establish diplomatic relations and will exchange ambassadors "as soon as possible," a Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman said here Friday.

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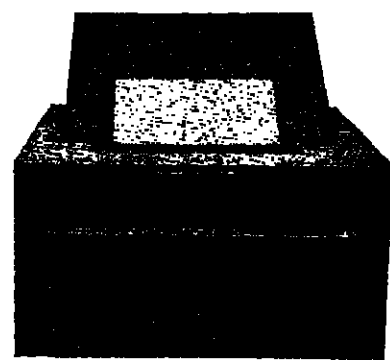
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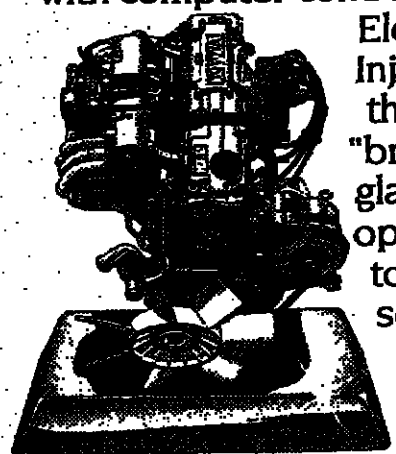
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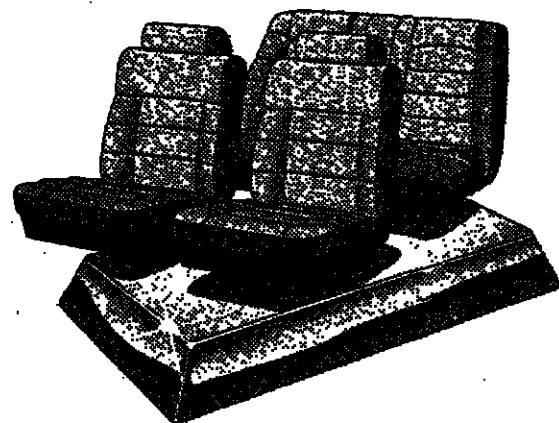
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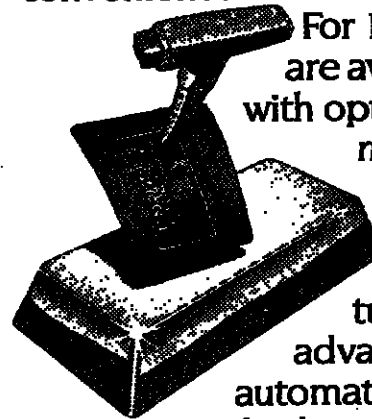


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NATO study shows

Soviet military spending up

BRUSSELS, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Soviet military spending has increased by four percent in real terms since 1970 and will keep the same pace until 1985, according to a recent NATO study.

This will increase the military sector's impact on the Soviet economy, diplomatic sources said here at headquarters of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), because the growth of the gross national product will be only approximately

three percent per year for the rest of the decade, with a possible drop in the second half. Military spending in the USSR went from approximately 45 billion rubles in 1970 to the equivalent of 65 billion in 1981, the report said. In current terms, the 1981 figures are higher, because of an inflation rate of about three percent yearly.

The military absorbed 11 to 13 percent of the gross national product at the beginning of the 1970s. The percentage rose to between

12 and 14 percent in 1980-1981. According to the NATO report, Soviet military spending falls into three major categories. In 1981, 40 percent of spending went to investments (new weapons, equipment and installations), 30 percent to operations and maintenance, and 20 percent to research and development.

Since 1970, the research and development category has increased the most rapidly, and there is no sign of any slackening. This shows the importance placed on qualitative improvement, according to the report. Armaments factories had grown and multiplied in recent years, a sign that the Soviet Union was aiming at long-term production of tested equipment.

In the 1970-1981 period, intercontinental attack forces took about 10 percent of the military budget, the same amount taken by aviation and ground troops stationed in East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

About 10 percent of the total for 1970-1981 went to troops stationed along the Soviet-Chinese border. But expenses in this sector had increased the most rapidly between 1967 and 1972. During those years, the number of ground troops had doubled and tactical aviation forces in the Far East quintupled.

Cardiac Surgery, to be published by MacMillan Inc. in June.

"I kept running out of breath," Crosby said of his need for the operation. "I couldn't take my walks, or do my chores." His doctor, Cardiologist R. Jeffrey Westcott, said Crosby's life expectancy without the surgery would have been three months at most.

Westcott said Crosby's mental ability and muscle tone were exceptional for a man of his age, and the surgery would not have been attempted if he hadn't been in such good shape. Crosby was born Sept. 3, 1981, in Zephyr, Ontario, and attributed his good health to hard work.

"I've been a logger, a shingle mill sawyer, a construction worker and a farm hand — I've never stopped working hard," Crosby said.

101-year-old man ready to work after heart surgery

SEATTLE, Feb. 12 (AP) — A 101-year-old man, believed to be the oldest open-heart patient in history, went home Thursday to resume the hard work that has been a staple all his life.

"I feel pretty good," George Crosby said Wednesday from his bed at Seattle's Swedish hospital. "I'm just a little tired all the time, but I'll be all right when I get back to work." Crosby underwent a three-hour operation Jan. 31 to replace a badly calcified aortic valve in his heart with cow tissue. He also received a single coronary artery bypass.

Dr. Donald W. Miller Jr., Crosby's surgeon, said the oldest open-heart patient he had seen reported in the literature recently was about 95. Miller published a 1977 book on bypass surgery and co-authored *Atlas of*

Palau rejects U.S. nuclear arms

KOROR, Palau, Feb. 12 (AP) — Voters in the Republic of Palau have rejected a proposal to allow U.S. nuclear ships and weapons in their islands, but the fate of the nation's future political relations with the United States remains in doubt, officials said Saturday.

With all but absentee ballots and one precinct counted, results from Thursday's plebiscite in the western Pacific nation showed islanders narrowly rejecting a plan to allow nuclear and other hazardous materials

in Palau. A 75 percent majority was needed to override a two-year-old constitutional provision banning such hazardous materials. Nearly final vote figures showed 50.9 percent of the voters against the nuclear proposal.

Voters did approve an overall compact of free association with the United States, which offered islanders self-government and nearly \$1 billion in economic aid over the next 50 years. Latest figures showed 1,519 persons, or 59.8 percent voting, in favor of the compact.

Charles finds farm labor rewarding

LONDON, Feb. 12 (R) — Prince Charles worked as a farm laborer for five days in southwest England this week, eluding reporters in pursuit of royalty.

The 34-year-old heir to the British throne lived with a farming family, rose at seven each morning to milk cows, and put in 12-hour days caring for livestock, a spokesman for the prince said Saturday.

The farm, on Dartmoor, is part of the land the prince owns as Duke of Cornwall. Prince Charles wanted first-hand experience of what life is like on a duchy farm,

the spokesman said.

He said Prince Charles, who had planned the visit since last December, found the experience rewarding and felt it helped him to understand his farm tenants' views. A duchy spokesman said it had been a triumph of secrecy to conceal the visit from reporters, who last month were asked by Queen Elizabeth's secretary to let Prince Charles and his princess, Diana, enjoy a Swiss holiday in peace.

The 21-year-old Princes of Wales spent the week traveling in Britain on official engagements and did not visit the farm.

Soviet journalist arrives in Peking

PEKING, Feb. 12 (R) — A top commentator for the official Soviet newspaper *Izvestia* has arrived in Peking ahead of Sino-Soviet negotiations due to resume early next month, Soviet diplomatic sources said Friday.

East European sources said the journalist, Aleksandr Bovin, here as the guest of the Soviet ambassador, planned to interview Chinese Foreign Ministry officials in what could be a test of Sino-Soviet relations before negotiations resume in Moscow. They said he would also study China's assessment of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's recent visit to Peking which made little progress in solving the main problem in Sino-American relations.

By Vietnam

U.S. rights report termed cover-up

BANGKOK, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Vietnam has accused the United States of issuing its latest human rights report as a smokescreen to cover up its own abuses and hostility toward Communist states.

Radio Hanoi, monitored here Friday, noted the annual survey put out by the State Department Tuesday had not mentioned the "state of human rights" in the U.S. itself. "Now let us ask Washington who has persecuted and ill-treated black and colored people in the United States. Who has put the Indians in danger of being exterminated," the broadcast asked.

It said the United States had conducted "extensive wars of aggression" against Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia, and

was using "all means" on Dartmoor, the people of Puerto Rico and unspecified others. "By accusing Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, the Soviet Union and other Socialist countries of violating human rights, Washington hopes to cover up its own crimes and its hostile policy against Vietnam."

The Vietnamese people had been fighting for more than 30 years for independence, freedom and "genuine" human rights, the broadcast added. In its report, the U.S. State Department called Vietnam a dictatorship depriving its citizens of civil and human rights and violating the rights of neighboring Cambodia, where Hanoi has 150,000 to 180,000 troops.

On foreign workers

Nigeria gives new pledge to U.N.

UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 12 (AP) — A U.N. official, in a message issued here Friday, claimed to have a new pledge from the Nigerian government not to harass foreign workers in the process of expelling them from the country.

Muhammad Essaafi, U.N. disaster relief coordinator, reported he had got the pledge in Lagos in talks with B. Akporode Clark, director-general of the Nigerian Foreign Office. He also reported Nigeria was displeased at not having been consulted before U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar issued a statement of concern on Jan. 28 over the plight of the expellees.

"I was given assurances," he messaged, "that Nigerian government will ensure that the hardship situation to which the returnees had been exposed when the first deadline

expired at the end of January will not recur." Nigeria expelled all illegal foreign workers from the country last week, a majority of them were from Ghana, and the remainder from Chad, Togo and Benin. "Although the government decision could not be revoked, I was told that great flexibility would be exercised in its implementation and that affected individuals would not be subjected to any harassment," Essaafi said.

Essaafi, a Tunisian whose U.N. office is in Geneva, has sent the message to Cuellar while the latter was in Nairobi visiting the Kenyan government, a copy was delivered here to the secretary-general's chief of cabinet, Virendra Dayal of India, and made public by Cuellar's spokesman, Francois Giuliani.

Russian premier to visit Athens

MOSCOW, Feb. 12 (R) — Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov will go to Athens this month for the first visit to Greece by a member of the Soviet leadership since World War II.

An announcement in the Communist Party newspaper *Pravda* gave no date for the visit but Greek diplomats said it would be in the last week of February. Tikhonov's talks in Athens would center on political issues and international affairs, but Soviet economic

experts would also accompany him to discuss bilateral trade, the diplomats said.

Relations between the two countries have improved since the Greek Socialist Party came to power under Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu in 1981. The Soviet media have been urging Papandreu to stick to election pledges to phase out U.S. military bases on Greek territory and Tikhonov is likely to dwell on this point.

Urges ending of pact with U.S.

Filipinos launch anti-bases movement

MANILA, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Filipino nationalist leaders and anti-nuclear activists Saturday launched an Anti-Bases Coalition (ABC) in a renewed bid for removal of U.S. military bases from the Philippines, allegedly used as storage and transshipment points for nuclear warheads.

In a founding congress in a suburban Roman Catholic school, two former senators and a retired supreme court justice led some 300 church, labor, student, teacher and opposition representatives in declaring the campaign. Their main demand was the "immediate and unconditional removal of all U.S. bases and military installations," and the "immediate abrogation of the military bases agreement" between the U.S. and its traditional Asian ally.

The United States maintains two major bases within 90 kms of here — an air base and a naval base — that allow it to project air sea and naval power across the South China Sea and the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

The campaign has been timed to coincide with the ministerial-level review of the U.S.-Philippine bases agreement from April to November, according to former Senator Jose Diokno, the coalition's secretary and the Philippines' leading human rights crusader.

The ABC charged that the U.S. bases here not only act as magnets for nuclear attack or counterattack by enemies of the United States, but serve to support the "authoritarian" government of President Ferdinand Marcos as well.

The Marcos administration has received \$100 million in military and economic aid since 1979 as "rent for the bases until this year, and is known to be asking more for the 1984-88 agreement whose terms will be final."

China, Spain arming Zimbabwe

HARARE, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Zimbabwe is on the way to acquiring military equipment from China and Spain, it was learned here Friday.

According to informed sources, Peking is offering 20 T-55 tanks and around 20 MiG-21 fighter-bombers. The authorities here are at the same time seeking to reduce the dominance of white personnel in the Zimbabwean Air Force, and Peking is also offering to train black Zimbabwean pilots in China, the sources said. Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang visited Zimbabwe on his recent tour of Africa.

A diplomatic source said Zimbabwe was

ized during the April-November talks.

Presidential sources said the Philippines also may ask \$1,500 million in aid for the coming five-year period. The military bases agreement, signed in 1947 and due to expire in 1991, is subject to review every five years.

Filipino Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile is due to meet U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger for initial talks on the bases and other bilateral security issues late this month.

An informed source said that a team of Chinese instructors and medical doctors has been in Zimbabwe for several months seeking to recruit future pilots but that they did not yet have sufficient black candidates for the training course, which lasts some three years. Another problem is a lack of sufficient qualified staff to maintain the military craft, especially those made in Eastern countries.

During the black nationalists' war against the white Rhodesian regime, China provided arms and training for the fighters of ZANU.

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*** Eighth Prize** Mazda 929 Haji Hussein Alireza Co.

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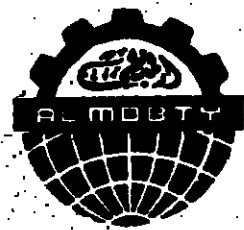
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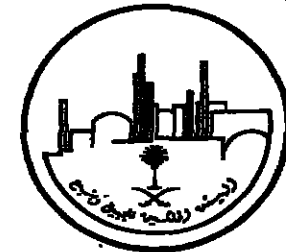
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Arab panorama - 2

The primal desert ship withstands the ages

In this article, the second in our series on Arab panorama, Peter Boxhall describes the pivotal role the camel has been playing in the social life of Arabs over the centuries — a role which the "primal desert ship" continues to play even today in spite of the great revolution that has been taking place in the field of transport throughout the Middle East in the wake of the great oil boom.

Since time immemorial, the Arabs have depended on the camel. Even before Islam, even before the Hijra, the flight of the Prophet from Makkah to Medinah it was the transport of the desert people; and, because of its milk and flesh, their sustenance; and, because of its wool, their tented shelter from the sun, the wind, the rain; and, for economy, their very source of wealth.

Camels tend, to a great extent, to be associated with the Bedouins. It should, however, be remembered that, in spite of their fine Arabian breeds, these nomadic desert-dwellers were not the first to make use of this utilitarian, hardy beast, nor are they, by any means, the only people to make use of them. Let me remind my readers, for example of some of my fellow countrymen who have traveled on them in recent times across the barren wastes of the desert, and mention: Gertrude Bell, Dame Freya Stark, Lawrence, Philbey, Ingrams, Doughty, Thomas, Thesiger... Nor should I forget to mention that eccentric lady of fiction Aunt Dot who, traveling in northeast Turkey, (where there are also numerous camels), could not resist the opportunity to cross the forbidden frontier into Russia.

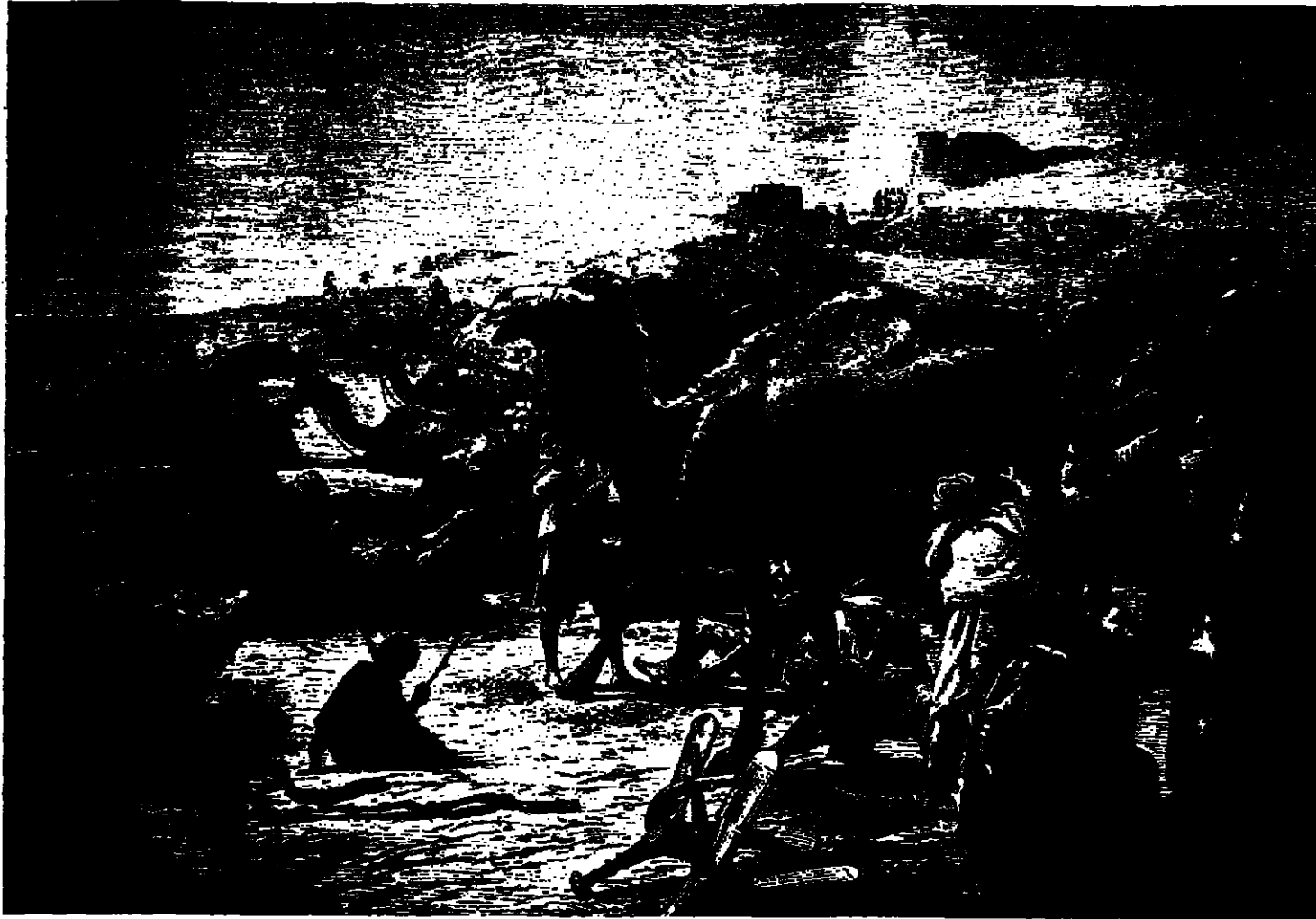
On the subject of Russia, although one could not easily imagine his dumpy, urban, but not always urbane, figure aboard a "Bactrian", (which is the two-humped to be found in the Soviet Union; south Siberia, and the Mongolian and Gobi deserts), the late Krushchev apparently well understood the camel's usefulness. Addressing Soviet farmers in 1963 on their "indirect attitude" toward camels, he said: "... these undemanding beasts have great agricultural potential. They provide not only transport, leather and wool, but excellent milk with 5 or 6 percent fat content."

Exactly when camels first came to be used by man is shrouded in the obscurity of history. The first positive mention we know of, however, is that contained in a papyrus of 33 centuries ago. So we can at least say, with some degree of certainty, that this relation of the llama, alpaca, guanaco and vicuña was known to man in the Pleistocene era. We also know that the original species of the "camelus" was to be found in South America and that at that time, whenever it was, the Bering Straits, which divide Alaska and the Soviet Union, as a result of glacial action, connected with the mainland of the American and Asian continents. Thus the camel was able to cross from America to Asia.

Before continuing with this geographical survey of the origins of the ubiquitous camel, however, we ought now to mention the "Bactrian", the camel with two humps and long hair, which is the camel that is mostly to be seen today on the Asian continent. "Bactria" is the former name given to the country stretching between the Hindu Kush and the River Oxus in Central Asia — a desert and partly mountainous area, (which, incidentally, was originally the home of one of the Arabian tribes).

Some time later, the camel, this extraordinary pack animal so adroit and sure-footed in the desert, came to be employed on the great trade caravan routes which, for hundreds of years, have stretched from China to Europe and Arabia; and somewhere along the way, in an evolutionary sense, the camel lost one of its humps, and became the Arabian camel.

The Arabian camel was domesticated in south Arabia some 6,000 years ago, and by the 7th century B.C., large numbers are known to have existed, particularly in the deserts bordering the settled lands of Syria and Mesopotamia. It has hardly changed since then; and the Bani Hajir, the al Murrah



SHEARING CAMELS: Camel-shearing near Asiot, Egypt. This drawing first appeared in a book on Egypt. Below: Camels at a caravanserai in eastern Turkey. Camels are very much in use in Anatolia although the hardy beast finds the Turkish winter too unbearable.



and al Awazim tribesmen who buy and sell their camels in the Hofuf market today are merely proclaiming or disclaiming the merits or demerits of their camels' identical, distant-related ancestors. I mention Hofuf but, as these camel marts are endemic elsewhere within the Arabian peninsula, I should also now allude to the fact that the Arabian camel itself has many species, and that these vary in shape, size and color.

Camels of the southern Bedouin tribes, for example, are mostly blackish, while the northern tribes prefer dark-colored strains, considering the black camels to be of uncertain temper and often savage. In the north of Arabia, white racing camels are the pride of every tribe. In the area of Makkah camels are small and in Oman so small that the Arab there say that in central Arabia the camel is the first cousin to an elephant, but in Oman to

a mouse.

The Arabian camel first came to be bred in south Arabia, in that area known as the Hadramaut. It is not surprising that this should have been so: this was the land of Punt, the area of the frankincense and MYRRH; and what better and surer form of transportation could there be than the economical and sure-footed camel to take these precious loads north along the Incense Road, to the famous emporiums of Petra and Palmyra?

From south Arabia we turn toward Socotra Island opposite, which was also famed from early antiquity for its frankincense (as well, as it happens, for its dwarf cows, whose origins are still unknown). Socotra, where I have lived for nine months with the indigenous Bedouin, has a fine, much-valued breed of camel. Almost humpless, they are taller now than their Arabian ancestors, which allows

them to pick their way up and down the numerous boulder-strewn wadi beds and through the densely-packed, prickly mesquite. Dragon's Blood and euphorbia trees. Theodore Bent, writing in the 19th century about the Socotri camelmen and camels, said:

"The Socotri camelmen are most dextrous packers. They first obliterate their camels' humps by placing 3 or 4 thick felt pads or numerous 'nummuds', and on this raised surface they assemble their baggage, carefully secured in their baskets... The camels are very fine specimens, standing considerably higher than the Arabian animal."

Although much of the flora and fauna of Socotra is related to that of the Horn of Africa, a mere 120 miles to the west, it is unlikely that the Socotri camel is related to the Somali camel. So where did it come from?

This enigma leads me to the much larger question of how the camel came to Africa.

There are three theories. The first is that it is a descendant of the prehistoric camel that is known from fossil evidence to have roamed the grassy Sahara in the Pliocene age. Secondly, that sometime in the Roman period, the Romans themselves introduced it from Syria; in this respect the evidence put forward is that the first known literary reference to the camel in Africa is that describing Caesar's campaign against Juba in 46 B.C. Thirdly, suggesting that the Romans did not in fact introduce the camel to Africa — although certainly they encountered them in Tripolitania and Tunisia from the 1st century B.C. — but the camel gradually traveled westward from Ptolemaic, then Roman, Egypt.

Of the three theoretical presumptions, I discount the first: the Pleistocene camel in the Sahara was with two humps, whereas the camel now endemic to North Africa and the Sahara north of the equator is with one hump. The second theory, too, seems unlikely: the Romans preferred to march, even long distances, on their own feet. So I prefer the third alternative, particularly as it is known, positively, that the camel was extensively used along the banks of the Nile, in the 3rd century A.D., to transport the lucrative traffic of the day, and for the trade (and later pilgrimage) route across the desert from Darfur in Sudan to Asiot in Egypt. And if this surmise is correct, then it is also logical to assume that the Somali camel either came down from Upper Egypt, or up, from the south, from the Darfur Desert.

In Spain, to turn to another continent, there never were, nor have been since, many camels. Yet it is known that the Arab troops that conquered North Africa, and pushed on later across the Straits of Gibraltar, took with them the Arabian camel. A visit to Granada will confirm this former use of camels: a caravanserai still survives, reminding us of the legacy of the Arab transport system which connected cities such as Cordoba, Seville and Granada.

Australia, too, the other continent, has its camels, but exactly where they came from is quite unknown. Suffice it to say, that with an extensive desert, Australia had a need for camels and that, in its heyday, the camel was widely used as a pack animal, and harnessed to wagons, buggies and farm equipment.

In concluding this short geographical survey of the camel, it is interesting to consider that the camel is also seen today in such seemingly unlikely places as northern India and the Indus Valley; in the Californian Desert, (where they were first introduced in 1853, from the Sahara, by Jefferson Davis, who was later to become president of America); in Turkey — both the one and two hump versions — and even in the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus and where there are three.

Of these countries, it is perhaps surprising that so many camels should still be seen in Turkey, for not only is the republic mountainous and devoid of desert but in winter extremely cold, a fact alluded to as long ago as the 8th century, by the famous Arab historian Al Jahiz. Yet the Turkish camel is hardy, and long-haired. It is also most productive; a camel in Turkmenia is credited with giving 1,000 gallons of milk in one season.

Prophet Muhammad referred to the camel as an instance of the wisdom of Allah. It is certainly that, and, in addition to its many uses, has a remarkably long span of life, sometimes living for 40 years or more. Primarily a "desert ship", it can operate effectively in non-desert areas too.

Resilient, hardy, useful, a ceaseless worker, it is no wonder that the camel is almost ubiquitous. And, contrary to popular opinion, it is not, in this 20th century, in decline, superseded by the wheeled transport. From about 1950 there has, it is true, been a decline in certain areas: the camel population of Turkey decreased by about 76,000; that of Iran by 275,000; that of Syria by 68,000. Yet, overall, the estimated number of camels in the world increased, in the same period, from 10,273,000 to 14,595,000. That is indeed a wonderful testimony to the qualities of the "primal desert ship".

Moscow lifts veil on army in Afghanistan

By Mark Frankland

MOSCOW (LOS) — The Soviet Union has begun to lift the veil on the activities of its army in Afghanistan.

A three-part series of articles just published in the youth paper *Komsomolskaya Pravda* has given an unusually vivid account of the dangers of an Afghan tour of duty for Soviet officers and men alike. It describes how three soldiers died when their convoy came under attack from guerrillas and a burning truck, loaded with dynamite, which they were trying to move away from other vehicles, exploded.

It also describes a helicopter mission to pick up a wounded Afghan government officer. "Delay meant death for him," the Soviet journalist wrote, so the two helicopters had to make a dangerous night flight.

They were to pass over an area controlled by "a large rebel band" which the day before had broken through the Soviet defensive cordon and was armed with anti-aircraft weapons and heavy caliber machine guns. This obliged the pilots to fly without lights but the lead helicopter was nevertheless hit by guerrilla fire.

"Should they return? No, it did not enter anyone's head to alter course." The mission was carried out and "the life of a man was saved."

The final article describes the life of two young nurses, Lena and Larisa. Unlike the soldiers, who are drafted to Afghanistan, the girls were volunteers. The Russian reporter asked them why. "We wanted to test ourselves in a difficult and important enterprise."

The nurses had had their share of adventures, using their own blood to save the life of wounded soldiers and once getting trapped with a Soviet unit for three weeks. In the first year of the war they lived and worked in tents and in winter had had to break the ice on their morning washing water. Life was better now, with prefabricated living quarters equipped with electricity and running water, a military shop and even a club where dances are held.

This picture of the Soviet Army setting in and making itself as comfortable as possible will be recognized at once by anyone who has seen a military expeditionary force in the field. The longer the Americans stayed in Vietnam, the more elaborate their support services became, running even to hot "Franksgiving turkey dinners" for units on patrol.

The Soviet troops, according to *Komsomolskaya Pravda*, can sometimes expect to have meals of soup, Russian porridge and tinned stew, with tinned fruit salad to end with. It doesn't sound very different from American combat rations.

This may be the clue to why the Soviet authorities have at last decided to tell their people a little at least, of what Afghanistan means for their soldiers. The Soviet invasion is now three years old. According to Western estimates, which can only be rough ones, they may have suffered some 12,000 men killed and wounded out of a force that numbers over 100,000. (The Russians have never said how many troops there are in Afghanistan or what casualties they have taken.)

The reluctance until now of Moscow newspapers to give any account of what service in Afghanistan is like inevitably opened the way to a flood of rumors. There have been stories of coffins returning with mutilated bodies, of parents being warned not to talk of their son's death. Since every young man must do military service, the threat of Afghanistan is very real to many Soviet families. Parents talk with relief when they know a son has a safe posting or has completed his tour of duty.

The *Komsomolskaya Pravda* articles appear to be an attempt to deal with the problem of scary rumors and public apprehension. It is very likely linked with Yuri Andropov's decision to appoint a shrewd ex-journalist (Boris Stukalin) as new head of the party's propaganda machine. The main drift of these articles is to show service in Afghanistan as a patriotic testing of the heroism of Soviet youth. Some at least of the dead and wounded are to become public heroes rather than be lost to official imposed oblivion.

For example, one of the three men killed in the truck explosion (the names of all three are given) has been turned into an example to be emulated by the Pioneers, the Soviet equivalent of Wolf Cubs, in his home village. The article quotes letters they have written to the Army: "We have given our word to be like Nikolai and if it is necessary to give our lives too for peace and justice."

Both officers and men are shown in the articles as brave, honorable warriors in the best *Boys' Own Paper* tradition.

"THE AFGHANS SENT IT TO CELEBRATE OUR THIRTY ANNIVERSARY HERE"



Scientists find likenesses in compulsive behavior patients

By Betty Cumberl

BETHESDA, Maryland (LAT) — Scientists are still unable to determine why a very small number of people spend several hours a day showering, or checking the locks on the windows or avoiding contact with other people, all the while wishing they could stop doing such things.

The rare disorder is called obsessive-compulsive behavior. It is believed to be at least part of the reason that millionaire Howard Hughes drove himself into seclusion in the final years of his life.

Research scientist Carol Hoover at the National Institute of Mental Health, currently studying a group of patients severely afflicted with the problem, recently has found that the sufferers tended to come from families that were overly meticulous and also suffered unresolved marital problems, prompting one or both of the parents to focus an inordinate amount of attention on the child.

"Even at this point, it is very far from clear what causes it," said Hoover, who has written several papers on the subject, along with researcher Thomas Insel.

Looking at 10 hospitalized patients here and gathering information on 174 of their relatives, Hoover found that "their families tend to keep to themselves. They tend to be overly meticulous, perfectionist, very proud of their own way of doing things. In some cases the marriages (of the patient's parents) were openly conflictual and tumultuous, and in other cases the problems were low key."

"But the parents were simply never able to get real fulfillment from each other so they sought fulfillment from this child. I had expected that the mother would seek sym-

biosis more often, but in half the cases, it was the father who overwhelmed the child."

Hoover described a severe case she is observing, disguising some identifying details.

"One young man is 18 years old with high ambitions to go on to college and enter a learned field," she said. "Meanwhile, in his growing up, he has become so afraid of dirt and anything having to do with bathroom

activities that he spends a large amount of his time, several hours a day, showering and avoids going to the bathroom as much as he possibly can. He would never use a public facility. He has also reached the point where he won't eat with his own family, won't allow his food on the same shelf of the refrigerator and has his own corner of the living room."

"When it comes time to go away to college the family has some kind of fantasy that it will

work wonders for him and he'll be able to go. They move him into a dormitory, but he simply couldn't live. Shortly, he was out of school and back home."

In his mental processes he felt that if he didn't go in for these elaborate washings, some kind of terrible disease would strike him down or contaminate somebody else. "The patients, although they cannot stop showering, also feel they must stop, that this

is all wrong, they shouldn't do it and yet must do it. It's a terrible mental conflict. They are severely ill."

Hoover believes the symptoms, which fall into two basic categories of cleaning and checking, "act as a barrier between the patient and the parent seeking such closeness." And yet those same symptoms, if they become severe enough, almost always tie the sufferer to his parents and their home as he becomes unable to function anywhere else.

"These are utterly trapped families," Hoover said. "In which one or both of the parents are held at bay by the kid's symptoms, and the kid is using these symptoms as a power play to bully his parents into doing his will, throwing tantrums. At the same time the kid is utterly dependent. If he floods the bathroom after showering for hours, who will clean it up? Not the kid."

Other obsessive-compulsive behaviors include reading the same text over and over, repeatedly checking to see the water faucets are turned off or flushing the toilet dozens of times.

"On the one hand the parents want to be immensely close to their kid, and the yearning for closeness is consuming on the part of at least one parent," Hoover said. "But they also want their kid to succeed, to grow up and live with other people. It's very, very difficult for the families."

Although Hoover does not rule out the possibility that the cause of the disorder may be genetic, she did not find the symptoms in more than one member of any family. She said it is important for the sufferer to seek psychiatric help early and for the parents to work on their marital problems.

THE SUDDEN URGE TO LOSE WEIGHT



STOP KILLING YOURSELF

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: For the past few years, I've "gently" suggested that my wife lose some weight. But she hasn't agreed. She says all the books on dieting and all the ads on how to lose were ridiculous. "Why can't a person put on a few extra pounds," she asks. "If it gives pleasure and doesn't really hurt a healthy person?" But now that she's pregnant with our first baby, she has suddenly decided to go on a reducing diet. In spite of what her doctor advises, she is on a low calorie diet. Isn't this harmful to the baby? — Mr. C.

Dear Mr. C.: I think the consensus of medical opinion is that dieting during pregnancy is poor timing. Instead, pregnant women should gain 25-30 pounds to give their infant and themselves the best chance for a normal, healthy growth. Dieting during pregnancy is against all common sense. Chances are that the pregnant woman who diets to lose is preventing the fetus from receiving adequate nutrients. Dieting will reduce the chances that the infant's weight will be normal. And it will also reduce the mother's stores of proteins, iron and other supplements.

Your wife has chosen a poor time to go on a diet, Mr. C. Some women become more conscious of how they look during pregnancy than at other times. It gives them a good excuse to go on a diet which they considered foolish before they became pregnant. It's difficult to define the reasons why so many persons (male or female) suddenly

have the urge to lose weight. Falling in love, business requirements or social demands often stir the need for dieting. But of all reasons, pregnancy is certainly not the time to begin a weight-loss regime.

MEDICALLETTERS
(Replies to and from readers)

Dear Dr. Steincrohn: Whenever I go to a baseball game a few hours after I arrive home, I get sick. Sometimes it's cramps, but it's real bad when I get nauseous, vomit and suffer from diarrhea. I can't understand it. Can you? — Mr. H.

Dear Mr. H.: Yours is an interesting problem for your doctor to solve. It will take detective work on the spot rather than a "long-distance" guess to find the culprit. But here's a hunch: what do you eat at the game? Hot dogs? Peanuts? I've known several patients who were allergic to peanuts who had symptoms similar to yours. No more post-game episodes after they quit peanuts. Try it. If it doesn't work, ask your doctor to help.

For Mrs. Y.: It's not unusual for an 85-year-old like your dad to have difficulty in chewing. Have a dentist check on his dentures. If he has a hard time with meats, vegetables etc., grind them or chop them, and take advantage of stewing.

(Tomorrow: Overcoming infertility)

Dr. Peter J. Steincrohn
M.D., F.A.C.P.

As budget deficit soars to \$1b

UAE to trim spending by 50 percent in '83

ABU DHABI, Feb. 12 (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE), its revenue hit by the world oil glut, is to slash government spending by half in expectation of what officials said would be an austerity budget for 1983.

Budget Director Abdul-Hakim Al-Bunai told Reuters that Finance Minister Sheikh Hamdan Ibn Rashid Al-Maktoum had asked federal ministries to cut spending to half the average monthly level of last year until the budget was introduced.

Sheikh Hamdan had previously ordered spending in the seven-emirate federation of 1.1 million people be kept at the 1982 rate until the new budget was drawn up and approved.

Bunai said the UAE's federal budget deficit rose to about \$1 billion last year from a previously forecast \$626 million shortfall. The UAE, badly affected by the glut, has cut its oil production to just over a million barrels per day (bpd) from previous levels of about 1.7 million. Gulf oil analysts said.

Other Gulf states have also pushed their oil production down in order to honor the official OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) reference price of \$34 a barrel.

Bunai said an eight-minister committee would soon finish discussing the 1983 budget, which he said was expected to be austere.

Until the budget is approved, ministries have been asked to buy only essentials, but items like salaries and foreign commitments were not affected, he said.

The 1982 budget, which covers the calendar year, set spending at \$6.1 billion and revenue at \$5.5 billion. Oil revenue provides about 95 percent of government income.

Elsewhere in the Gulf, Kuwait and Oman have already announced deficit budgets because of falling oil revenue. Bahrain this week announced that some construction projects would be postponed and a four-year development program would be stretched out.

Soviet move to hike farm output

MOSCOW, Feb. 12 (R) — The Kremlin's top agricultural policy maker urged Soviet farmers to improve their methods of growing grain, fodder and other arable crops.

Mikhail Gorbachov, the Communist Party central committee secretary responsible for agriculture, wrote in the party newspaper *Pravda* that poor farming methods, not bad weather, were responsible for disappointing harvests.

Bad weather has been generally blamed here for the Soviet Union's string of four bad harvests since 1979, but Gorbachov said

some farmers had managed to achieve high yields despite the poor conditions.

Urging farmers to concentrate their efforts on winning stable crop yields, he criticized those who failed to use proper crop rotation systems and were still achieving low results despite high input of fertilizer and capital investment.

Gorbachov, whose article was the first major statement on Kremlin farm policy since the death of President Brezhnev last November, said the Soviet Union was still short of grain for animal feed.

Tanker mart hit by oil price uncertainty

LONDON, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Fixing of super-tankers out of the Gulf area was almost completely neglected on the tanker market for most of this week as charterers awaited news of the long-expected cut in crude oil prices.

But British Petroleum (BP) came in with several orders, including one for a VLCC (very large crude carrier), shortly before the weekend.

The "inevitable" reduction in oil prices predicted by Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani Friday hardened these "wait-and-see" tactics.

Also having a quietening effect on the market here was the annual dinner of the Institute of Petroleum, which was attended by oil traders and brokers from all over the world.

The only fixing out of the Gulf area was out of Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal including one VLCC at a slightly easier rate.

Indonesia and West Africa were virtually devoid of any inquiry for dirty cargoes while rates for 60,000-tonners in the Mediterranean slipped back quite sharply.

Dubai attracted 88 trade teams in '82

ABU DHABI, Feb. 12 (WAM) — Eighty-eight trade delegations visited the Emirate of Dubai in 1982 while the number of exhibitions rose to 23, Abdullah A. Abul Houli, director of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry's foreign relations department said.

In his annual report published by *Khaleej Times* Abul Houli said of the 23 exhibitions held in Dubai eight were international events with more than 100 exhibitors taking part in some of them.

Wall Street

Upturn in economy keeps mart on upswing

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (AP) — Wall Street's bull market is six months old this weekend, and still looks as robust as ever.

Several market indicators climbed to new highs in the past week as evidence continued to accumulate that the United States economy has begun a recovery from the recession.

Fears of a revival of inflation were soothed at least temporarily when the government reported that producer prices of finished goods fell at a two-digit annual rate last month.

Bond prices, which have lately dropped about 5 percent after a prolonged advance last year, showed some renewed strength late in the week. But however much there was to celebrate, many Wall Streeters were warning that the stock market was overdue for at least a brief setback or "correction", in the parlance of the investment world.

Prominent among these was Roger Birk, the chairman of Merrill Lynch and Co. The recession is apparently over, and more good times seem to lie ahead for the securities markets, he told a business gathering in Geneva, Switzerland. But he added, "my view is that we are due for what might be termed a intermediate-term correction before long."

Birk said he believed the Dow Jones industrial average could fall to the mid-to upper-90s "before continuing some time this year to new highs."

A couple of days earlier, Greg Smith, research director at Prudential-Bache Securities, declared in an investment strategy report: "The recent uptick in interest rates suggests a lull in the recovery by spring. We still expect a correction of about 100 Dow points."

At the close Friday, the average of 30 blue chip stocks stood at 1,086.50, up 8.59 for the week and only a few points shy of the record closing high of 1,092.35 it reached Jan. 10.

The New York Stock Exchange's composite index rose .89 for the week to an all-time high of 85.18, and the American stock exchange market value index gained 11.56 to 377.52. Big Board volume averaged 85.47 million shares a day, against 78.60 million the week before.

Since the Dow Jones industrials reached what turned out to be a historic turning point at 776.92 last Aug. 12, cautious analysts have repeatedly warned investors against expecting smooth sailing conditions to prevail indefinitely.

And indeed, the rally has run into some brief squalls a 36.33-point drop in the Dow last Oct. 25, for example, and a 19.50-point decline in the first trading session of 1983.

But to date there has been nothing close to

a classic "correction" — a retracement of, say, one-third to one-half of the market's previous gains.

Thus, the market has refused to accommodate investors who missed the initial surge in stock prices and have been hoping for a decline to give them a second chance to get on board.

As a long-standing investment adage has it, the greater the number of investors waiting for such a buying opportunity, the less likely it is to occur.

Presumably for a correction to take place, something has to happen to scare a good number of bulls out of their optimism. So far, however, anxiety over the financial woes of countries dependent on oil revenues hasn't done it. Neither has the seemingly intractable problem of the federal budget deficit.

IFAD studying Lebanon's project

ROME, Feb. 12 (R) — The needs of about 15,000 families working small farms throughout war-ravaged Lebanon are currently being studied by an IFAD mission which is in the country at the request of the Lebanese government. The team of specialists from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the U.N. specialized agency specifically focusing on the needs of small farmers in developing countries, will remain in Lebanon until March 5. The mission is appraising the design of a comprehensive rural rehabilitation project to increase agricultural production.

The agricultural sector of the Lebanese economy, particularly that comprising the small farmer, requires immediate attention. The income of small farmers is depressed. More and more they are relying on non-farm income sources. Besides raising the farmers' income, nutritional levels, and standard of living, the project will also les-

sen the annual food deficits in cereals, meat and milk which now cost Lebanon considerable foreign exchange.

Specifically, the IFAD project aims to correct insufficiencies in the rural road system, deficiencies in apple marketing, limited farm credit facilities for small farm holders, and the lack of good quality breeding stock. Bomb-damaged roads impede access to markets. Others, untouched by war, are inadequate. They must be repaired so that food can once again flow to the consumer. IFAD will help to repair more than 100 kilometers of vital rural roads. About 10,000 farm families will benefit from this alone.

Many small farmers' cattle and other animals were slaughtered or otherwise killed during the battles, or driven away. Another aspect of IFAD aid will be the importation of improved dairy cattle and goats, and their distribution to 750 dairy farmers.

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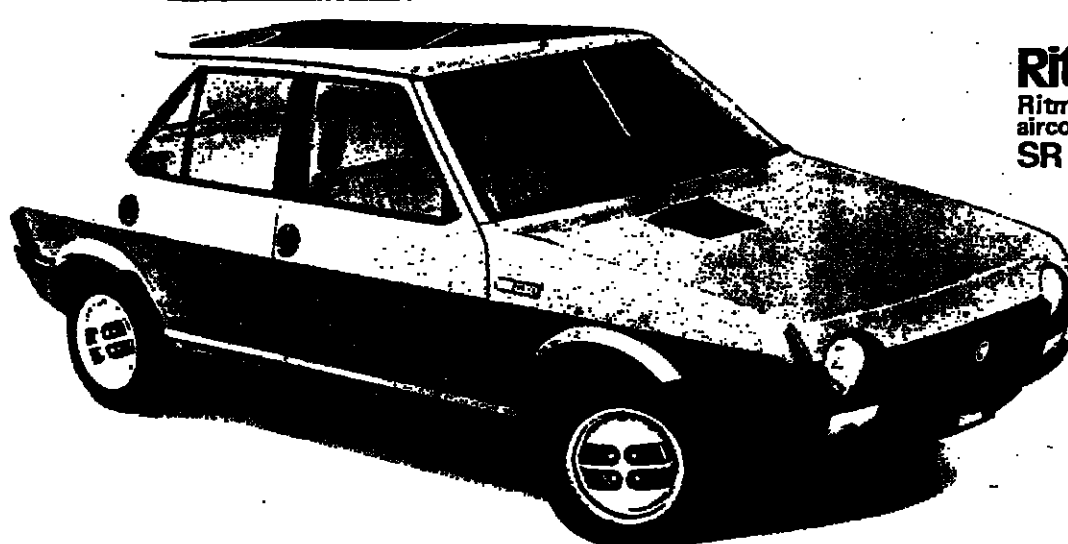
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For practicing protectionism

U.S. may slam trade door on Japan

TOKYO, Feb. 12 (AFP) — America's special Trade Representative William Brock has warned Japan that unless it shoulders some of the burdens of free trade, it will have difficulty operating in the U.S. market.

Brock told a press conference here Saturday that "Japan cannot continue to reap the rewards of free trade without having to share its risks." "To continue this strategy is to ensure that access to the U.S. market will no longer be free."

Recalling that the U.S. trade deficit in manufactured goods totaled \$27 billion in 1982, Brock regretted that "30 years of protectionism in this country have made the impression that it is simply not possible to trade on the Japanese market, no matter how competitive you are."

He continued: "We know our country can compete with anyone, we know that healthy two way trade strengthens both parties, and we know that such open trade does not now exist."

Brock noted that all videotape recorders sold in the United States are Japanese, while Japan is the second biggest market for U.S. exports, and the biggest customer for U.S. agricultural products.

This interdependence, and the current imbalance in trade, would have predictable consequences — pressure for protectionist measures which Japan should not underestimate, Brock said.

Of all industrialized countries, Japan had the lowest percentage of imported manufac-

"WATCH ME HIT THOSE FOREIGNERS, KID"



tured goods as a proportion of all imports, he added.

Brock commented that this "denies to the Japanese consumer one of the principal benefits of free trade, namely free choice among a diversity of goods as well as the reduced prices brought about by real competition."

Japan must recognize the urgent need to open its markets in the fields where Japanese firms were highly competitive, he said.

In this context he was worried by Japan's policy of helping industries in difficulty in areas where American firms would have the

competitive edge.

Such a policy ran counter to Japan's declared support for free trade, Brock said. Noting that bilateral relations were going through a critical phase, Brock — who Friday met International Trade and Industry Minister Sadanori Yamazaki and Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe — said he favored a new type of trading relationship.

The aim would be to reduce skepticism in the United States about Japan's true willingness to open its markets, and to reduce protectionist pressure.

In an unrelated development, officials of the Japanese Ministry for International Trade and Industry (MITI), said Saturday, The European Economic Community (EEC) has assured Japan that France will lift its restrictions on imports of videotape recorders.

The officials also said that legal proceedings by some EEC firms alleging dumping by Japan would be dropped.

The officials were commenting on an agreement Saturday by Japan to restrain its exports of videotape recorders to the EEC for the next three years, with the 1983 volume being held below 4.55 million units. The volume for the next two years will be decided later.

In addition Japan agreed to introduce a floor price system to control exports following charges that it was dumping the recorders.

At the end of last year France introduced controversial measures requiring all imported videotape recorders, 90 percent of which are Japanese, to be processed through customs at the inconveniently situated central town of Poitiers.

IMF seeks hike in state quotas

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (R) — Finance ministers from rich and poor countries have agreed on a formula to boost the International Monetary Fund's resources, but must now persuade their governments to pay for the plan.

The 22 members of the IMF's powerful policymaking interim committee spent two days in Washington locked in private negotiations to try to find a way to help it deal with a growing debt crisis in the world.

When it adjourned Friday, the committee announced it had produced a three-pronged plan to pump more money into the IMF and prevent the world monetary system collapsing.

First, the 10 industrial countries on the committee will be called on to put a further \$12 billion into a special pool of funds, known as the General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB), to bring its total assets to about \$19 billion.

Secondly, all 146-member countries of the IMF will be asked to increase their contributions, or quotas, to expand its overall resources to \$99 billion, a 47.5 percent increase on the current level.

Lastly, the committee hoped to work out a deal with Saudi Arabia within the next two

weeks to give the IMF at least \$2 billion for use in an emergency.

IMF Managing Director Jacques de Larosiere and the interim committee chairman, Sir Geoffrey Howe of Britain, said they hoped the whole package could be approved by the governments of member countries and implemented by the end of 1983.

But selling the program will not be easy, particularly in the 10 industrial countries — the United States, Britain, West Germany, France, Japan, Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada and Sweden — required to make the biggest contributions.

In the United States, key members of Congress have already said they do not like increasing U.S. contributions to the IMF at a time when nearly 12 million Americans are out of work and President Ronald Reagan is seeking sharp cuts in domestic spending.

Nevertheless, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan predicted that Congress would eventually produce the \$22.2 billion required of the United States under the new funding formula. "As Congress moves through its deliberations, I think it will become clear that this support for the IMF is in our own national interests," he said.

Six more die as famine grips Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA, Feb. 12 (AFP) — Six more persons have died in Ethiopia within the past week as a result of drought-related famine, it was learned here Saturday.

That brought the death toll from drought to 50 within the past six weeks. Forty-four others died recently in the Libo district of northern Gondar province.

The latest victims were children and aged people who died in the town of Korem in northern Wollo, according to Alemayehu Asfaw, a relief and rehabilitation official based in the Wollo provincial capital, Dessie.

Alemayehu said 10 out of 12 districts in Wollo were hit by the disaster as well as areas near Assefa on the Red Sea coast, affecting upward of 540,000 people in all.

Many of these areas had been suffering from recurring drought for five consecutive years, Alemayehu added. Wollo province also suffered the heaviest casualties in the 1972-74 drought disaster that claimed some 200,000 lives.

The Ethiopian News Agency has reported that the authorities in Gondar and Wollo have set up relief coordinating ad hoc committees to cope with the mounting emergency.

The problem, according to Alemayehu, was getting supplies to remote villages, and not a shortage of food which was stocked in sufficient quantities to deal with the immediate threat.

Another relief official in Gondar, said Friday that relief workers were hampered by the shortage of four-wheel drive vehicles to reach needy villagers trapped in difficult terrain.

Ethiopia's relief commission says some 3.2 million people in 13 of the country's 14 provinces have been affected by drought. Last year the traditional big rains either failed or arrived late.

Taipei sets record in productivity

TAIPEI, Feb. 12 (CNA) — The Republic of China's productivity reached a record level last year, despite the economic recession, according to the Ministry of Economic Affairs. The productivity index reached 185.9 in December.

Productivity is measured by comparing output with input; it is a barometer of the economic strength of a nation. The index rose by 6.37 percent over 1978 to an average of 136.6 in 1979; up 5.8 percent to 144.32 in 1980; up 8.4 percent to 156.41 in 1981; and up 6.4 percent to 166.47 last year.

In the first nine months of last year, the index rose from 160 to 167, then to 175.45 in October and down to 172.71 in November.

The productivity index has grown faster in real terms than the index of the average wage. In 1979 this increased 12.8 percent over the previous year to 134.84; then 4.9 percent up to 141.49 in 1980; down 0.5 percent to 140.82 in 1981; and up 5.5 percent to 148.57 last year.

Dollar closes on strong note

By J.H. Hammond

JEDDAH, Feb. 12 — The American dollar closed on stronger note on the Friday night New York markets, but the overall pattern was not sustained against all the major currencies. The dollar was boosted by the larger than expected rise in the weekly U.S. money supply figures which showed a \$5.9 billion rise in the M1 aggregates. This compares to \$2.7 billion rise in the previous reporting week, and the money market's reaction was to push up Eurodollar interest rates by 1/16 percent and take the one-year rate back to 10 percent level after it had fallen to the 9 15/16 percent on European trading.

The dollar's fortunes were also raised after the announcement that U.S. wholesale prices fell by 1 percent in January, making this record fall and further pushing down the U.S. inflation level.

On the whole, the money markets are still cautious about the immediate prospects for U.S. dollar interest rates and there are those still of the opinion that the Federal Reserve Board will cut its discount interest rate soon. As such, short-term Eurodollar deposit rates have tended to fluctuate more erratically compared to longer-dated deposits.

In New York on Friday night Federal Reserve "Fed fund" prime lending rates averaged around the 8 1/2-8 3/4 percent level with the "Fed" making no attempt to cut

back on the rate.

The New York bullion markets closed on an easier note but managed to remain above some crucial reference price levels for both gold and silver. Gold prices closed at the \$504 an ounce level while silver remained buoyant at the \$14.41 an ounce. The latter's price firmness was encouraging given the sharp drop in silver prices during the past week when prices fell to \$13.75 an ounce.

In the exchanges, the dollar had a mixed market in New York but movements were mostly due to profit-taking and position shortening in some of the European currencies. The German mark was still helped by a Conservative election victory outlook and closed at 2.400 — down from European levels of 2.3960. The British pound was surprisingly stable at the 1.5495 levels despite the predictions of some oil price cuts, while the French franc remained firm at 6.8100 levels. The Japanese yen was unchanged at the 235.00 level but the Swiss franc fell back to 2.00 from 1.9980 Zurich Friday prices.

On the local markets, Saturday saw rial deposit rates open steady with most activity generated on the short-dated funds. The week-fixed traded at 7 1/2 - 7 3/4 percent levels. No dealing interest was seen in the long-dated funds. The one-year deposit shot at 9 percent. In the exchanges, spot rial/dollar rates were weaker at 3.4398-03 levels.

Nguema hints at OPEC talks

PARIS, Feb. 12 (AFP) — A special meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) may be held before the end of February in a last bid to prevent the collapse of world oil prices.

OPEC Secretary-General Marc Nguema said in an interview with Austrian radio that the opportunity for such a special conference was acknowledged by everyone and it was up to oil ministers from the 13 member countries to give their agreement.

In a related development Venezuela's oil minister was quoted in Abu Dhabi Friday as conceding a \$3 to \$4 cut in the price of crude could have "a favorable long-term effect" in reviving world demand for OPEC oil.

But Humberto Calderon Berti, in statements distributed here by the United Arab Emirates news agency (WAM), said such a cut would boost OPEC's exports by only half a million barrels daily "in the short term."

He said he favored instead "a two-to-three year freeze on the current price of \$34 per barrel," adding that he had fresh grounds for hope a new OPEC ministerial meeting could be convened during February to "draft a pricing policy respected by all members."

Berti said this hope was based on contacts he made with several OPEC ministers, who were in Caracas for informal discussions on the sidelines of a Venezuelan refinery inauguration.

"The key to any future OPEC meeting, however," was an agreement among Gulf

Arab and African producers on price premiums, fixed on the basis of the Africans' higher quality crudes and their proximity to export markets, Berti said.

The Gulf Arab producers did not participate at the Caracas event, but WAM said it had dispatched a special correspondent who talked with Berti along with some other reporters.

"A price reduction will solve nothing, and a price war will benefit nobody," Berti said. "What we need is a pricing policy respected by all members and helping at the same time in generating an increased demand by oil consumers," he added.

He advocated these principles for a new OPEC deal: "A two-to-three year freeze on the current benchmark price, guarantees for supplies of oil to consumers, amending the price differentials (premiums), and a quota distribution system under a ceiling of no more than 17.5 million barrels daily."

Dutch reserves up

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 12 (R) — Dutch gold and foreign exchange reserves rose 392 million guilders to 42.82 billion guilders in the week ending Feb. 7 after falling 75 million the previous week, the central bank's weekly return shows.

Money dealers said the return reflected recent central bank purchases of some 300 million guilders' worth of Belgian francs in support of the Belgian unit.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 6:00 p.m. Saturday

	Cash	Transfer
Bahraini Dinar	9.20	9.14
Bangladesh Taka	14.20	14.07
Bahamian Dollar	7.25	7.25
Canadian Dollar	7.22	7.22
Deutsche Mark (100)	143.00	142.67
Dutch Guilder (100)	130.00	123.43
Egyptian Pound	3.15	3.12
Emirati Dirham (100)	93.75	93.75
French Franc (100)	31.00	30.55
Greek Drachma (1,000)	37.50	41.75
Indian Rupee (100)		34.83
Iranian Rial (100)		
Iraqi Dinar		5.80
Italian Lira (10,000)	25.20	24.95
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	14.70
Jordanian Dinar	9.75	9.69
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.88	11.83
Lebanese Lira (100)	87.50	86.60
Libyan Dinar (100)	52.50	54.36
Malaysian Ringgit (100)	28.10	26.56
Philippines Peso (100)		36.93
Pound Sterling	5.34	5.29
Qatari Rial (100)	94.56	94.60
Singapore Dollar (100)		167.10
Spanish Peseta (1,000)		26.93
Sri Lankan Rupee (100)	172.00	171.33
Syrian Lira (100)	61.75	61.75
Turkish Lira (1,000)		
U.S. Dollar	3.45	3.44
Yemeni Rial (100)	75.10	75.25

Selling Price: 55.850
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Project Announcement

The Ministry of Defence and Aviation General Directorate of Military Works

Announces its desire to prequalify firms and joint ventures interested in Slaughterhouse, Gate House and Worker's Community Hospital Entrance Project at King Khalid Military City, Hafr Al-Batin, Saudi Arabia. Participation in this acquisition is restricted to Saudi Arabian firms and Joint Ventures with at least 51% Saudi participation. Firms interested in being prequalified for this project must submit an expression of interest, and if not previously submitted, an ENG Form 3627, "Prequalification Statement for Prime Construction Contractors", to the address shown below not later than February 28, 1983.

ENG Forms 3627 must include related data depicting current capabilities and financial resources for accomplishment of work, a commercial registration certificate (in English), the percentage (%) of ownership of the firm by nationality, and a current phone number and address for all future communications concerning this project. If there is a separate address to which solicitation documents are to be sent, in the event your firm is selected for bidding, that address must be clearly identified. Interested contractors which have previously submitted the above information need only submit an expression of interest; however, ENG Forms 3627 which are more than a year old should be updated at the time of expressing interest.

Proposers must precisely identify the entity being prequalified in order to be eligible to receive a Request for Proposal (RFP). Proposals will be

accepted only from prequalified entities. If prequalified, a copy of any Joint Venture Agreement will be required for submission with the proposal.

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C. Entrance to 100 bed hospital — Design/Construct a concrete masonry entrance of approximately 150 square meters to include a reception area, two waiting rooms with toilets, and a small first aid area. Includes all sitework, furniture and equipment.

CONTRACT PROCEDURE
Request for Proposal (RFP), DACA93-83-R-0009, will be issued to approved prequalified firms only and the resultant contract award will be made on a firm fixed price basis.

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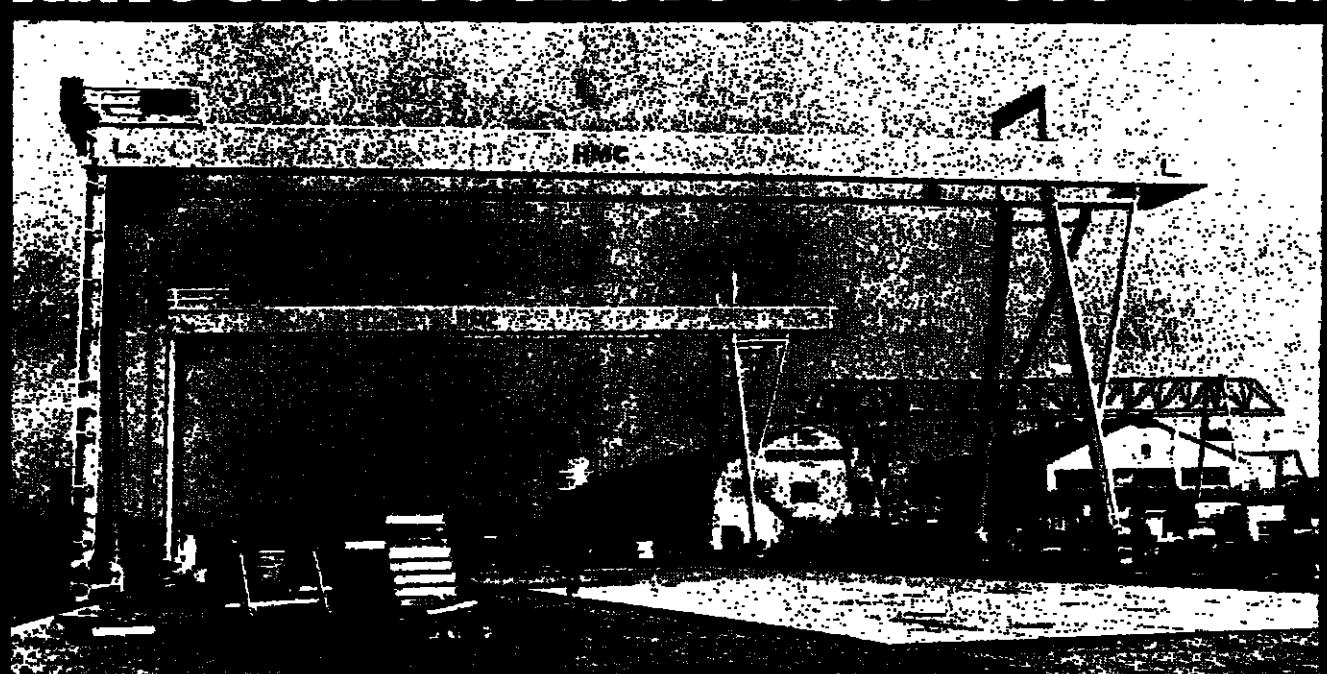
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In Molson Challenge

Gene Mayer dashes Wilander's hopes

TORONTO, Feb. 12 (AP)—Gene Mayer swept Mats Wilander of Sweden 7-6, 7-6 Friday night to finish atop Group "B" of the preliminary, round-robin section of the \$250,000 Molson Tennis Challenge.

In the semifinals Saturday, Mayer, who finished with a 2-1 record, faces Spaniard Jose Higueras, who lost to Jimmy Connors 6-2, 6-3 in a later match to decide the top player for Group "A".

Connors is undefeated in three matches and has lost only six games while Higueras, who replaced Bjorn Borg when the Swedish superstar withdrew Tuesday because of an infection in his left hand, finished 2-1.

Connors meets Australian Peter McNamara, who also finished 2-1 in Group "B", in the semifinals. Mayer placed ahead of McNamara because he had a better set won-lost record. In an earlier match Friday, Tim Mayotte defeated Vitas Gerulaitis 7-6, 4-6, 7-6.

The least important match of the tournament also was the longest, lasting almost 2½ hours. Mayotte, 1-2, and Gerulaitis, 0-3 had both been eliminated from semifinal play Thursday night.

Mayotte almost let the match slip away in the final set after he had built up a 5-2 lead on a service break in the fifth game. Gerulaitis, sixth in the world, fought back, breaking serve in the eighth and 10th games on sizzling cross-court winners and to eventually force the set into the second tiebreaker of the match. With the help of two aces, Mayotte took the tiebreaker 7-4 to wrap up the match.

Meanwhile, second-seeded Guillermo Vilas of Argentina and fourth-seeded Kevin Curren of South Africa advanced Friday to the semifinals of the \$300,000 United Virginia Bank Classic along with No. 6 Steve Denton and unseeded Eliot Teltscher.

Vilas brushed aside No. 8 Brian Teacher

6-4, 6-1. Curren defeated unseeded Jeff Borowiak 6-3, 6-3. Denton knocked off unseeded Roscoe Tanner 6-2, 6-4 in a battle of big servers, and Teltscher defeated Bill Scanlon 6-4, 6-3, in a match involving two unseeded players.

After falling behind 3-1 in the first set when his serve was broken in the fourth game, Vilas won 11 of the next 13 games to close out Teacher.

Tanner, who had ousted top-seeded John McEnroe Thursday, was no match for Denton in what was basically a battle of serves.

Denton plays Teltscher and Vilas faces Curren in Saturday's semifinals. The winners meet Sunday in a best-of-five match for the \$100,000 top prize. The loser receives \$32,000.

Heafner surges with late burst

HONOLULU, Feb. 12 (AP)—Vance Heafner finished off a 65 with birdies on four of the last five holes and opened up a three-stroke lead Friday in the second round of the \$325,000 Hawaiian Open Golf Tournament.

Heafner, son of the late Clayton Heafner, who played the PGA tour in the 1940's and '50's, finished two trips over the 6,881-yard (700 m) Waialae Country Club course. "The weather was a big factor," said Heafner, who played in the afternoon when winds usually are high on this tropical island.

"There was practically no wind at all over the last nine holes, and that's a big break," Heafner said. And he took full advantage of it, playing those last nine holes in 30, six-under-par.

Andy Bean also praised the warm, windless conditions as "perfect weather, ideal conditions" after he'd compiled eight-



Mayer ... sparkling show

under-par 64.

He was tied for second at 134 with Larry Rinker. Rinker had a no-bogey round of 65 and did not have a "5" on his card.

The group at 135, nine-under-par, included local pro David Ishii, Leonard Thompson, Peter Jacobsen, John Cook and Ed Fiori. Ishii, who made five futile attempts at gaining his PGA tour playing rights, had a 68. So did Thompson. Jacobsen closed up with a 66. Cook shot 65 and Fiori pitched in twice on the way to a 67.

Ben Crenshaw, like Bean a former winner of this event, and Jon Chaffee were another stroke back at 136. Crenshaw had a 68 and Chaffee closed up with a 66. Arnold Palmer improved to a 70 but, with a 147 total, had no chance of qualifying for the final two rounds Saturday and Sunday. Gil Morgan, winner of two titles already this season, was 69-142.

Audis to the fore in Swedish Rally

KARLSTAD, Sweden, Feb. 12 (Agencies)—Hannu Mikkola of Finland retained his slender lead in the Swedish Auto Rally as the Audi team filled the first three places after ten of the 25 special stages here Saturday.

Mikkola and his Swedish co-driver Arne Hertz are now just 51 sec ahead of Audi teammates Stig Blomqvist and Bjorn Cederberg, with Lasse Lampi and Petti Kuukkala third. France's Michele Mouton, who at one point slipped well down the field after technical problems, has clawed her way back to seventh place, five min 48 sec behind Mikkola, to become the fifth Audi among the top seven.

Swedish crew Kalle Grundel and Rolf Meleroth produced some superb drives and their new Golf GT was in fourth place nearly two and a half minutes behind the leaders and another home crew, Ola Stromboms and Bruno Borglund, were lying fifth in their SAAB-99, more than three minutes behind Mikkola.

De Roux rescued by British yacht

SYDNEY, Feb. 12 (Agencies)—French yachtsman Jacques de Roux, taking part in the BOC Challenge Single-Handed Round-The-World Yacht race, was rescued from his dismasted and sinking boat Friday by fellow-competitor Richard Broadhead of England, race organizers said.

De Roux was taken aboard the Englishman's yacht, *Persuance of Medina*, some 2,000 nautical miles west of Cape Horn in the South Pacific Ocean, a spokeswoman said.

De Roux's 12.5-meter yacht *Skoien III* was reported to have sunk but the Frenchman was taken on board Richard Broadhead's 16-meter boat *Persuance of Medina*. The news came after fears for the safety of de Roux had mounted.

With Mikkola setting the pace

Meanwhile, in Daytona, a row has erupted over a small aluminum strip. Grand National stock cars weigh 3,700 pounds, (1,678.3 kg) but right now a number of the drivers are worried about a strip of aluminum that weighs less than a pound that they believe can mean the difference between competing and crashing.

Defending Winston Cup champion Darrell Waltrip led the chorus of dissenters Friday who criticized NASCAR for causing a safety hazard with their spoiler size regulations.

The spoiler is a sheet of rigid aluminum bolted to the edge of the rear deck of the car. It sticks up on end to catch the air flowing over the car, thereby exerting downforce to help keep the car stable at high speed.

"If they (Nascar) don't give us more spoiler," the two-time national champion said, "We're going to be in for a lot of trouble when these cars get in (race) traffic."

Practice for the \$1 million Daytona 500, Feb. 20—the season opener—officially got under way Friday on Daytona International

Speedway's high-banked 2.5-mile tri-oval. Pole qualifying for the Feb. 20 race, as well as the running of the \$228,000 Busch Clash for 1982 pole winners, are scheduled Sunday.

Nascar officials met Friday after the track closed to discuss the alleged spoiler problem, but a spokesman for the sanctioning body said "no official announcement would be made until sometime Saturday."

The problem is that the new Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS model, which Waltrip and many of the other top drivers are in this season, have one-inch less spoiler on their rear deck than the other top general motors cars—the Buick Regal, Oldsmobile Cutlass and Pontiac Grand Prix.

Currently, Nascar rules allow the Monte Carlo—with a new specially-designed aerodynamic nose—to have spoilers 3 ½ inches (8.9 cm) off the rear deck. The other three GM models, all basically the same as last season's cars, are allowed 4 ½ inches (11.4 cm).

FIDE yet to finalize three venues

AMSTERDAM, Feb. 12 (R)—Venues for two of four quarterfinal matches to find a 1984 challenger to Soviet world champion Anatoly Karpov have been decided, the International Chess Federation (FIDE) said here. Soviet players Gary Kasparov and Alexander Beliavsky begin their match in Moscow on Feb. 26, while Robert Huebner of West Germany starts his game against Vassily Smyslov of the Soviet Union in Velden, Austria, on March 15 or 19.

Organizers have not yet found a venue to stage the other two candidate matches, between Zoltan Ribli of Hungary and Eugenio Torre of the Philippines, and Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland and Hungary's Lajos Portisch. FIDE secretary Dr. Lim Kok Ann said it was now up to the players' national federations to decide where the two matches would be held. A final decision was expected by FIDE next week so the games could be

completed by April 15. Plans to stage all the men's and women's quarterfinal matches at one place failed because the players could not agree on the location, Dr. Lim added.

Venues for three of the four women's matches to find a challenger to world champion Maya Chiburdanidze of the Soviet Union have also been agreed. Margareta Muresan (Romania) and Lidia Simenova (USSR), and Nona Gaprindashvili (USSR) and Irene Linares (USSR) begin their games in Lvov, the Soviet Union, on March 12.

China's Liu Shi-Lan and the Soviet Nana Jo Eliani will play at the same time as the Huebner-Smyslov match in Velden. The venue for the match between Nana Alexanders (USSR) and Tatiana Lemachko (Switzerland) has not yet been decided. Lemachko left Bulgarian team during an International Chess Olympiad in Lucerne, Switzerland last November.

Reynolds makes Vermaak sweat

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 12 (AP)—Ginny Purdy advanced to the semifinals of the \$50,000 Indianapolis Women's Pro Tennis Tourney Friday night by upsetting Sweden's Catarina Lindqvist 7-6, 6-3.

Purdy, 16, a high school sophomore, meets Czechoslovakia's Iva Budarova in the last four. Top-seeded Yvonne Vermaak of South Africa, who survived a three-set struggle in the quarterfinals, meets England's Anne Hobbs in the other semifinal. The title match is Sunday afternoon.

Vermaak struggled two hours and nine minutes before beating No. 8 Candy Reynolds 7-6, 3-6, 6-3. Vermaak said, "It just depended on who would break service." The 5-foot-1 South African who is ranked 26th in the world, added, "I expected a tough match and it was. I thought we both played well."

Hobbs defeated Switzerland's Christina Jolissaint 6-4, 6-7, 6-4, while No. 7 Budarova topped Peanut Louie 6-4, 6-4, in the other quarterfinals match.

Meanwhile, the Wightman Cup, one of the most prestigious women's tennis events in the world, apparently will be played this fall in Williamsburg, Virginia, according to the *Newport News Daily Press*.

Only signing of the final contract seems to remain to bring the Nov. 3-5 event to William and Mary Hall, the paper reported. Promoters hope the peninsula site can become the permanent American home for the annual U.S. vs. Great Britain clash started in 1923.

Beth Daniel takes two-stroke lead

SARASOTA, Florida, Feb. 12 (AP)—Defending champion Beth Daniel fired a four-under-par 68 Friday and stormed to a two-stroke second-round lead over four other golfers in the \$175,000 Ladies Professional Golf Association Sarasota Classic.

Daniel started the day three strokes behind first-round leader Jo Ann Washam and finished with a two-day total of six-under-par 138 over the 6,128-yard (5,603 m) Bent Tree Golf and Racquet Club Course.

Jo Anne Carner, who played five holes early Friday to complete the rain-delayed first round with a two-under 70, teed off again 30 minutes later and shot another 70 to go four-under for the tournament at 140.

Kathy Postlewait, Canada's Cathy Sherk and Donna White were tied with Carner, who, like Alice Miller and Daniel, had trailed Washam by three strokes after 18 holes. Postlewait carded a 67, while Sherk and White shot 68 and 69 respectively.

Washam had an opening-round 67 but struggled to a 75 Friday, with a round that included five bogeys and only two birdies. Her two-day total of two-under-par 142 was four shots off Daniel's pace.

Daniel's round included six birdies and two bogeys. She played the back nine first and sank putts of 12 and 12½ feet (3.6 m and 3.8 m) at nos. 12 and 13 respectively, before dropping putts of 10 feet (3 m) at nos. 2 and 3 on the front side. The field will be cut to below 70 scorers and ties after the second round. Sunday's winner will receive \$26,250.

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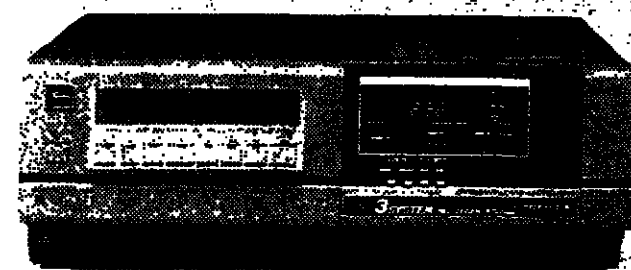
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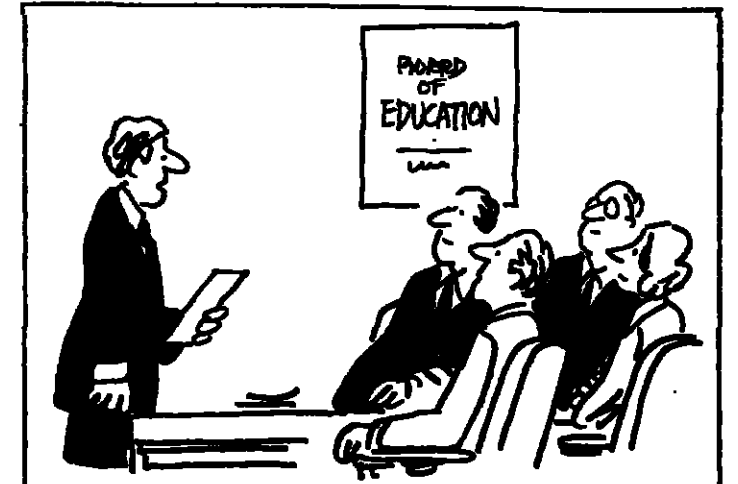


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Bahrain Channel 4	4:00 Quran 4:10 Religious Talk 4:25 Program Preview 4:30 Cartoons 6:00 Religious Program 6:45 Soap 7:00 Daily Arabic Series 8:00 Arabic News 8:30 Soap 9:00 Arabic Program 10:00 Local Program 10:00 Program Preview
Bahrain Channel 55	6:00 Quran 6:30 Shakhshari Film 7:00 News 7:30 Fey 8:00 Dickens of London 8:30 Rockford Film 9:40 Cartoon, followed by News Summary
Dhahran	4:00 Children's Show 4:32 Safety/Ment Your Chaper 4:40 Big League Soccer/ Week No. 27 5:33 People Special/ Trouble with Mother 5:56 Lawrence and Shirley/You've Picked Me too Far 6:24 Wonders of the Underworld/ Southern Tumble of Trak 6:53 I Love Lucy/ The Overman 7:16 The Engineer/ Roger Munk
Dubai Channel 10	4:00 Holy Quran 4:15 Religious Talk 4:30 Cartoons 4:40 Arabic Cartoons 5:30 Religious Talk 6:00 Documentary 6:30 Movie Program 7:00 Daily Gulf Series 8:00 Local News
Radio Programs	
Radio Riyadh	Riyadh AM 1284 KHz FM 96 MHz MW 245.98 MHz Dammam AM 1284 KHz Riyadh AM 1224 KHz FM 96 MHz MW 245.98 MHz Dammam AM 1284 KHz
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BBC World Service	(ex 9th Play of the Week) 0800 News 0900 News about Britain 0915 Radio Newsworld 0930 Play of the Week 0940 Command Performance (ex 9th) 1000 World News 1010 British Press Review 1015 Makers of Musical Taste (ex 2nd, 30th, Musical Mus- ings) 1030 Sports Review 1040 World News 1050 News about Britain 1055 From our own Correspond- ent 1058 Just a Minute 1059 Newsday 1100 World News 1105 The Press's Years 1110 World News 1115 The Press's Years 1120 World News 1125 British Press Review 1130 People and Politics 1135 Sports Review 1140 Classical Record Review 1145 Religious Service 1150 World News 1155 News about Britain 1215 Letter from America 1230 Command Performance (ex 9th) 1240 World News 1245 News about Britain 1250 From our own Correspond- ent 1255 Just a Minute 1259 Newsday 1300 World News 1305 The Press's Years 1310 World News 1315 British Press Review 1320 People and Politics 1325 Sports Review 1330 Classical Record Review 1335 Religious Service 1340 World News 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Relying on Communist support Kyprianou favored in today's election

NICOSIA, Feb. 12 (R) — With a final flurry of political insults, Cyprus took an eve-of-poll break Saturday from the boisterous campaign for an election Sunday in which President Spyros Kyprianou is relying on Communist votes to return him to power.

Public speeches and parades were barred for the day. But morning newspapers splashed the last-minute recriminations traded between the three rival camps in the closing moments of the campaign Friday.

The newspaper *Simerini*, supporter of right-wing candidate Glafkos Clerides, renewed the charge that Kyprianou's 10-month-old alliance with the Akel Communist Party had tied him to the path of "socialist transformation." It also said that Akel had secretly plotted a shake-up in its leadership after the election.

The charge was denied by Akel officials, who said the party remained united around the central committee. The pro-government newspaper *Eleftherotypia* published docu-

ments purporting to show that Clerides had worked for the Nazis in World War II, a claim denied by Clerides as a scandalous forgery.

Supporters of Socialist Party candidate Vassos Lyssarides charged that the government was installing members of its own Democratic Party as presiding officers at polling stations. An opinion poll last month forecast that Kyprianou would win 54 percent of the vote with 33 percent going to Clerides and 13 percent to Lyssarides. This would be enough to give Kyprianou outright victory. If no candidate got 50 percent of the vote, a run-off between the two leaders would be required the following Sunday.

Throughout the campaign, Kyprianou, a center-right figure who came to power unopposed after the death of President Makarios in 1977, has insisted that his alliance with Akel does not bind him to Communist policies. He says that Akel has sought no seats in government and has made no radical demands either in domestic or foreign affairs.

Search on for kidnapped horse

DUBLIN, Feb. 12 (R) — Police hunting for the kidnapped champion racehorse Shergar searched a remote part in western Ireland's coast after an English clairvoyant said the horse was being held in a ruined abbey in the area.

An Irish detective said all leads had to be checked out carefully, but the move to the picturesque Galway coast seemed to illustrate the slow progress in the case. The clairvoyant said Friday after holding a seance that the \$15 million stud horse, seized on Tuesday night, was alive and well in the abbey ruins and would be released shortly. Police have more or less discounted a series of anonymous telephone calls to Jeremy Maxwell, a leading racehorse trainer in Northern Ireland. The calls culminated in one announcing the horse had injured itself in its stall and had to be put down.

Earlier calls, by a man speaking in a southern Irish accent, had demanded a \$60,000

ransom and threatened to cut off one of Shergar's ears.

British racing journalist Lord Oaksey, who with two other colleagues traveled from London to Belfast at the demand of the caller to act as intermediaries, said it was possible they were used as a decoy or part of a hoax. He said the telephone calls to Maxwell may have been part of an elaborate plan to divert attention from behind-the-scenes moves to recover the horse in the south.

An anonymous call Wednesday night to the Aga Khan's Ballymanna stud west of Dublin, from where the 1981 English and Irish Derby winner was stolen, demanded a ransom of \$3 million. Although Irish police said they were against the paying of any money, the Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association has offered a substantial reward for his recovery and said it would be prepared to act as intermediary in any negotiations.

A British racing newspaper is also offering a \$15,000 reward for Shergar's safe return.

Miami gold robbery sets record

MIAMI, Feb. 12 (AFP) — The two men who got away with gold bullion and jewels valued at between \$6 million and \$9 million may have pulled off the biggest known gold robbery in U.S. history — by simply walking through an open door, police say.

An FBI spokesman said Friday that investigators estimated that the armed and masked men took about 400 kilos (880 pounds) of ingots and jewels from a wholesale jeweler, although the exact figure will not be known before Monday. The previous record theft was \$8 million from a jeweler in the same area in March 1980.

Under cover of a violent storm Thursday night, which raged across the whole state, the men got into the wholesale jeweler through a door which had been inexplicably left open. Wearing stockings over their faces and surgical gloves to avoid leaving fingerprints, they forced the owner to open three safes before tying him up with two other employees. The whole job took only three quarters of an hour.

The storm was so bad the streets were empty and police apparently hold out few hopes of finding witnesses.

Snowfalls bury many U.S. areas

NEW YORK, Feb. 12 (R) — Several eastern states were Saturday buried by heavy snowfalls left by a blizzard that roared off the U.S. Atlantic Coast, closing down all major airports from Washington to New York.

Road conditions were made treacherous by strong winds that caused snow drifts up to four feet (1.2 meters) deep. In the New York City area, motorists were stranded on highways as they tried to leave the city. Police had to rescue some of them and take them to police stations for shelter.

The blizzard, which began Friday, was the region's worst storm of the winter. Lightning and thunder accompanied the snowfall, which created traffic jams on bridges and tunnels connecting the city's five boroughs. Some commuter train and underground lines closed down. In Washington, government operations were brought to a standstill Friday as about 20 inches (50cm) of snow covered the city.

The White House sent all non-essential employees home after fewer than a third of Washington's 325,000 federal workers reported to their offices.

Philadelphia had more than 21 inches (53cm) of new snow, breaking its record snowfall of 1909.

11 Pakistanis killed as 3 buses collide

HYDERABAD, Pakistan, Feb. 12 (AP) — At least 11 persons were killed and 30 others seriously injured in a collision involving three buses on the Super Highway, about 20 kilometers from here late Friday night, police sources said Saturday.

The sources said two buses, bound for Hyderabad, and the third coming from Sukkur town en route to Karachi, rammed into each other, killing seven passengers instantaneously. Four injured passengers were rushed to the Jamshoro Hospital where they later died, the sources said. No information, however, was available what caused the three buses to collide.

Hospital sources said the injured passengers were recovering from their injuries and were expected to be released in a day or two. Traffic was suspended for about five hours, police sources said.

Blast hits Natal offices

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 12 (R) — A bomb explosion damaged government offices in a black residential area near Pietermaritzburg in Natal province Friday night, Radio South Africa reported. No injuries were caused in the blast, which occurred on a lawn outside the building, shattering windows and damaging the roof.

Indian bandit queen, followers surrender

BHIND, India, Feb. 12 (AP) — Phoolan Devi, the bandit queen of the ravines of central India, headed for prison Saturday after a spectacular and tumultuous formal surrender to top state officials.

The 26-year-old desperado, who had been seen by the few people but glamorized as a legend by thousands, came to life as a short, slender woman with a girlish figure, shoulder-length black hair, flashing black eyes and a pouty mouth. She actually gave herself up to police Thursday night, an official said. She commiserated the surrender Saturday by handing her 315mm-rifle to Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Arjun Singh, kneeling before him and pressing her face at his feet in the feudal act of obeisance.

She was followed by her 28-year-old, long-haired male friend, Man Singh, six other male members of her gang and 16 bandits of other gangs, including a second woman, Munni Bai. Phoolan Devi and the other bandits were wearing fresh police uniforms, which local sources said they had tailored for them overnight. She also wore a red silk headband and a bright red shawl against the morning chill.

An unruly crowd of 5,000 watched the ceremony in this frontier town, 300 kilometers southeast of New Delhi. Some onlookers shouted sarcastic comments about the staged event.

Eight hundred police maintained security for the ceremony, held on a specially-built platform at the local college campus. Nevertheless, an outsider managed to grab the microphone to criticize the government's handling of the affair and accuse police of paying the bandits a \$100,000 bribe to surrender there instead of in nearby Uttar Pradesh state.

Police grabbed and beat the imposter as well as a photographer taking pictures of the affair. The speaker, who was arrested, was identified as an official of the opposition Lok Dal political party. Two others in the crowd who tried to run onto the stage were also arrested.

Following the ceremony, police took Phoolan by bus to a press conference. She and the other bandits were later sent by bus to the jail in Gwalior, 48 kilometers away. Officials said they would be held there pending arraignment and the beginning of trials. She was expected to be formally charged later with illegal possession of weapons and other violations.

Phoolan's future was not clear.

Campaigning ends for Assam poll

NEW DELHI, Feb. 12 (AP) — Campaigning for parliamentary and state assembly elections ended Saturday in northeastern Assam as related violence claimed three more lives and saw 200 homes torched in a communal clash, officials said.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi ended her three-day airborne tour of the state and neighboring Meghalaya with a rally on the outskirts of Gauhati, Assam's main city. Sketchy reports said the fighting and house burnings were in two villages about 50 kilometers to the north.

At least 68 persons have been killed and scores injured in Assam since Feb. 2 when a student-led movement launched an "all-out drive" to block the elections, scheduled for Feb. 14, 17 and 20. The demonstrators oppose the presence of more than a million alleged aliens in the state and fear they will be allowed to vote.

Prime Minister Gandhi, speaking at a railroad community on the fringe of Gauhati, said the elections were a constitutional obligation and unrelated to the aliens issue, which has kept the oil-rich state in turmoil for more than three years.

Native Assamese fear they are being

Thailand closes refugee camp

BANGKOK, Feb. 12 (AFP) — The Thai government has closed a refugee camp for the so-called Vietnamese "land people" near the Thai-Cambodian border, a senior Thai Army official said Saturday.

Col. Sanan Kajornklam, in charge of refugee affairs at the Thai Supreme Command, said that the camp, designated NW82, was closed Wednesday after 1,889 Vietnamese were transferred to a refugee processing center in Chonburi province, 90 kilometers southeast of here.

He said this group was expected to leave for new homes in the United States, Australia, Canada, Malaysia and several other countries within 45 days. There are still 122 Vietnamese from the camp who have not been entered for the processing procedures, which began Jan. 28.

MX becomes Reagan's nightmare

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12 (AFP) — The controversial intercontinental MX missile has become a nightmare for President Ronald Reagan as he seeks a deployment method acceptable to the American Congress.

Reagan has just granted the Strategic Forces Commission, headed by former head of the National Security Council Brent Scowcroft, some-month delay to come up with new proposals for the deployment of the missile. The commission was formed at the beginning of January to recommend a new deployment scheme for the MX by Feb. 18. But Gen. Scowcroft, who was National Security Advisor under former President Gerald Ford, told President Reagan this week the commission needed to gather "more technical information."

A high official in the Reagan administration knows that it will not receive congressional approval for the MX as long as there is no "satisfactory" deployment method. Last December, the House of Representatives rejected the "decade pack" deployment method by shooing down a budgetary request for about \$1 billion to make five MX prototypes.

The decade pack proposal called for installing 100 MX missiles on a few square miles of land in Wyoming on the assumption that the first explosion of a Soviet missile would destroy following Soviet missiles and allow the United States to mount a counterattack with the high number of MX's that would survive a Soviet first strike.

	Min	Max	Min	Max
Amsterdam	-3	27	2	36
Athens	13	35	28	68
Bahrein	16	37	17	63
Bangkok	23	77	31	88
Batut	11	52	18	64
Belgrade	3	37	7	45
Berlin	-3	23	-1	30
Bogota	6	43	22	72
Brussels	-5	23	-2	38
Buenos Aires	16	61	32	98
Calcutta	-8	46	19	66
Chicago	-6	21	0	32
Copenhagen	-4	25	0	32
Dublin	-4	39	8	46
Frankfurt	-2	28	-1	30
Geneva	-4	25	0	32
Helsinki	-9	16	-6	21
Hong Kong	12	54	13	55
Honolulu	16	60	25	76
Jakarta	24	75	33	91
Kuala Lumpur	23	73	34	93
London	1	34	3	37
Los Angeles	15	58	26	79
Madrid	-7	19	4	39
Moscow	17	63	35	90
Manila	2	34	3	35
Montreal	-21	-6	-19	9
Moscow	-9	16	-7	19
Nassau	-19	-4	-28	-82
New Delhi	8	46	22	72
New York	7	19	-3	28
Osaka	4	29	18	64
Paris	-12	12	-6	43
Peking	-1	30	1	34
Rio de Janeiro	-10	14	-3	37
Sao Paulo	22	72	38	95
Seoul	11	51	18	64
Singapore	-13	9	-5	23
Stockholm	-4	25	-2	28
Sydney	22	72	25	77
Taipei	12	54	18	64
Tokyo	1	34	10	50
Toronto	-7	19	-13	9
Vancouver	7	43	13	55
Vienna	-1	30	3	37

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